

Gc
977.301
W73b
v.2
11732.


M.L.

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

GEN



3 1833 02493 2458



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center

HISTORICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA

OF

ILLINOIS

EDITED BY

NEWTON BATEMAN, LL. D.

PAUL SELBY, A. M.



AND HISTORY OF

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

EDITED BY

CHARLES A. CHURCH

VOLUME II.

ILLUSTRATED

CHICAGO
MUNSELL PUBLISHING COMPANY
PUBLISHERS
1916

Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois

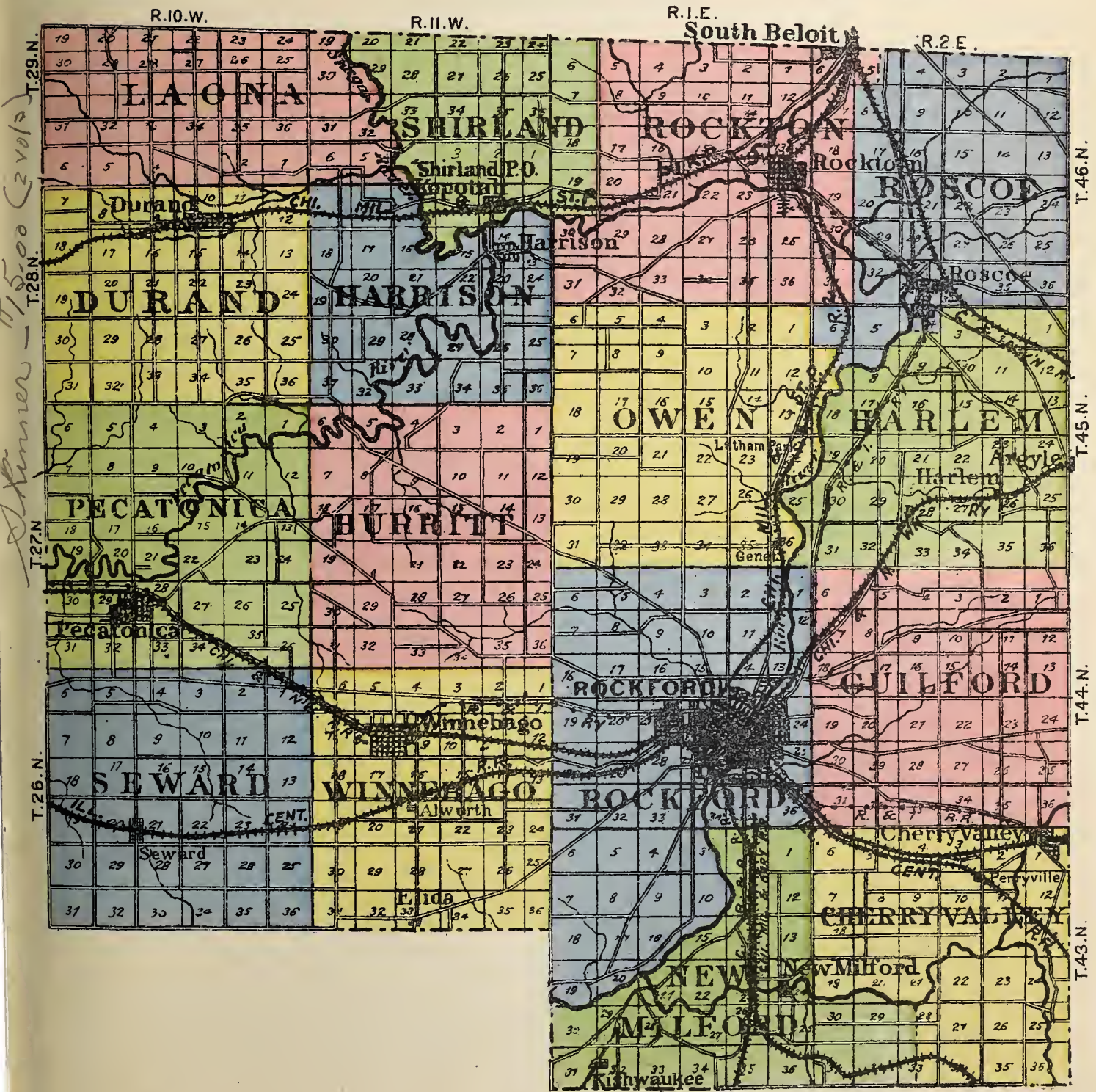
Copyright 1899-1900-1905-1912-1914-1915

By

Munsell Publishing Company

OUTLINE MAP OF **WINNEBAGO COUNTY** ILLINOIS.

1173231



FOREWORD

Sixteen years ago my History of Early Rockford was published by the New England Society. The work was graciously received and became at once the recognized authority on the subject. It has been placed in all the public schools of Rockford and in some of the rural districts throughout Winnebago County. The need of a supplementary work, that would bring the record down to date, has been recognized for years, but the expense involved in its publication has made it practically impossible as an individual enterprise.

The Munsell Publishing Company of Chicago has rendered an invaluable service in assuming full financial responsibility for "The Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Winnebago County." This company has specialized for many years in historical publications, which have been complete in subject matter, and produced in the finest specimens of the book-maker's art. The historical portion of the second volume, for which I am editorially responsible, covers the entire period from the settlement of Winnebago County in 1834 by Germanicus Kent and Thatcher Blake, down to the present time.

The first edition of the "Historical Encyclopedia" is the joint work of Hon. Newton Bateman, at one time state superintendent of public instruction of Illinois, and a personal friend of Abraham Lincoln; and Paul Selby, who more than any other citizen, may be called the founder of the Republican party in Illinois. Mr. Selby was the last survivor of that group of Illinois editors who held an historic conference in Decatur February 22, 1856, which led to a call for the first state Republican convention in Illinois. Two of those editors were from Rockford.

A famous preacher said "Theology is the skin of truth set up and stuffed." The vast empire of the soul is beyond the reach of dogmatic formula. So history is infinitely more than a cold recital of dates and facts. There is the human element, with the conquest of the material, the play of ambition, the realization of ideals, and the achievements of art, literature and religion. A city is the product of evolution, as truly as an empire or a planet; and the sympathetic historian is inspired as he traces through it all the golden thread of the "increasing purpose."

It has been my fortune to be an observer of, rather than an active participant in, public affairs. In the language of the stage, I have held a book rather than played a part. That role, however, has been long sustained. Nearly one-half of the entire history of Rockford has transpired under my personal observation, and I have personally known twenty-two of its twenty-eight mayors. I have

been ardently devoted to Rockford and jealous for her honor. Here two of my children and my grandchildren were born, and here I have made enduring friendships, which have so richly contributed to the worth of life.

Two years hence Illinois will celebrate the centenary of its admission into the union as a state. Rockford was founded eighty-two years ago. The combined "Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois" and "History of Winnebago County" will be a timely publication, in view of the state-wide celebration, which will enkindle greater interest in the story of our commonwealth.

By virtue of circumstances which I did not initiate, and could not foresee, I have been permitted to write the History of Rockford and Winnebago County. With a solemn sense of my duty and privilege, I have striven, despite its limitations, to make a worthy contribution to my day and generation, the value of which may, I trust, increase with the passing of the years.

Charles A. Church.

Rockford, Illinois, October 1, 1916.

INDEX

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL REVIEW.

Illinois First a Part of Virginia—Colonization Companies Grant of Land to the London Company—Grant of Land to the Plymouth Company—Neutral Territory—French First Settlers in Mississippi Valley—Early Explorers—Marquette—Joliet—Lasalle—Tonti—French Colonists from Lower Canada Founded Villages—Kaskaskia—Cahokia—Vincennes—French and Indian War—Winning of the West—Virginia Assumes Title to the Illinois Territory—Derivation of Name Illinois—First Governor of Illinois—First Seeds of National Unity—Transfer of Public Domain to the United States—Division of Northwest Territory—William Henry Harrison Becomes Governor of Indiana Territory—Birth of Illinois Territory—Illinois Admitted to Statehood 623-626

CHAPTER II.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS.

Geological Deposits—Galena, Blue and Buff Limestone—St. Peter's Sandstone—Surface Geology—The Limestones—Economic Geology—Building Stone—Gravel—Molding Sand—Lime—Clay—Building Sand—Little Mineral Wealth in County—Topography—Well Watered—Rock, Pecatonica, Sugar and Kishwaukee Rivers—Killbuck, Kent, Keith and Kinnikinick Creeks—Distribution of Timber—Historic Rock River—Margaret Fuller—Eagle's Nest Bluff—Ganymede's Springs—Early Flora and Fauna—Lack of Roads a Serious Handicap—Indian Trails Only Narrow Paths—Few Indians Later Than 1834 626-629

CHAPTER III.

INDIAN HISTORY.

Mounds in Winnebago County—Three Kinds—Opinions of Archæologists Concerning Their Builders—Winnebago County in Indian History—Indian Treaties—Treaty of 1829—Indian Eloquence—Floating Lands—Departure of the Winnebagoes—Cede Their Lands East of the Mississippi—Winnebago War—Winnebago Name Perpetuated—Fort Winnebago—Jefferson Davis an Officer of Its First Garrison—The Sacs and Foxes—Treaty of 1804—Black Hawk De-

nies Its Validity—Determines to Resist Removal of Tribe—Born on Site of Rock Island—The Black Hawk War—Settlers Call for Protection—Black Hawk Violates the Treaty of 1832—Again Crosses the Mississippi—Encamps at Dixon's Ferry—First Fatalities—Battle of Stillman's Run—Its Site Commemorated by a Granite Shaft—General Scott Reaches Fort Dearborn—Black Hawk Retreats—End of War—Black Hawk Surrenders—Speech of Black Hawk—His Imprisonment—Release and Death—His Character—Lincoln's Comment on the War 630-636

CHAPTER IV.

EARLY SETTLERS.

Stephen Mack—First Permanent Settler—Native of Vermont—Came to Winnebago About 1829—Married an Indian—Retired to Webber's Island During Black Hawk War—Founder of Macktown—Business Enterprises—Political Honors—Legalizes His Indian Children—First Wife Dies in 1847—Second Marriage in 1848—Death of Mack—Other Pioneers—Germanicus Kent—Thatcher Blake—Emigration Stimulated—Exploring Rock River Valley—Practical Men—Claims Located—Public Improvements—Panic of 1837—Closing Years of These Men of Enterprise—Daniel Shaw Haight—First White Women in County—First Public Religious Service—Additional Early Settlers—First Resident Physician—Settlers in Other Townships in 1835—Pioneers of 1836—Emigration in 1837—New England Type Predominant—English Stock Founders of Churches and Schools—Their Aims and Character—Later Pioneers of Winnebago County—Prominent Early Physicians—Dr. Josiah C. Goodhue—Dr. Alden Thomas—Dr. A. M. Catlin—Dr. George Haskell—Early Building Activities—Harvey H. Silsby an Early Contractor—Noted Men in Winnebago History—James Madison Wight—Jason Marsh—Francis Burnap—Duncan Ferguson—Thomas D. Robertson—A Pioneer Church Service—The Bakers—Mrs. Penfield—Other New England Early Settlers—A Cobblestone House an Old Landmark at Rockford—The Herricks—The Spaffords—More Familiar Names—Laomi Peake an Early Capitalist—First Public Hall in Rockford—The Barnums—Horace Miller—Other Pioneers—Settlers in the Forties—Able Lawyers—People of Sterling Type—Marshall H. Regan—The Clarks—Five Brothers Physicians of Note—First Book Store at Rockford—Judge William Brown—Hiram H. Waldo—Other Notable Men—Early Bankers—The Firm of the Law and the Gospel—John Edwards—Argonauts from Rockford to California in 1849-50 636-665

CHAPTER V.

PIONEER INCIDENTS.

A Mysterious Crime—First White Death in County—First Marriages—First County Recorder—First White Children Born—Protection of Land Claims—Trouble Among Claimants—Squatter Sovereignty Judiciary—An Amusing Incident—A Serious Occurrence—Early Ferries—Ferry Rates—Earliest Ferrymen—State Roads—Sums Appropriated for Road Improvement—Property Owners Willingly Donate Land 666-670

CHAPTER VI.

STAGE COACH AND COUNTRY TAVERN DAYS.

The Stage Coach—Frink, Walker & Co. Line Pioneers in Transportation—Primitive Conditions in Old Wayside Inns—Early Hotels at Rockford—Tallow Candles the Electric Light of Those Days—Rockford House—Washington House—Rock River House—Winnebago House—The Log Tavern—The Stage House—Brown's Cottage—The American House—The Waverly—The Union House—The Inn—The Chick House—The Eagle Hotel—City Hotel—Holland House—Primitive Villages with Changing Names—Scipio—Rib Town—Newburg—Leetown—A Seminary Projected There—Gristmill Erected at Newburg—Vanceborough—First Postmaster of What Is Now Twelve-mile Grove—Trials of the Pioneers—Sturdy Type of Settlers—Pioneer Women—Frequent Scarcity of Provisions—Excellent Story Told by Judge Church—First Patriotic Celebrations.... 670-675

CHAPTER VII.

LAND TITLES.

Polish Claims—Their Foundation—Polish Exiles Reach Rockford in 1836—Selection of Lands by Polish Agents—Settlers with No Titles Became Uneasy—Their Squatter Rights Disregarded—Appeal to Washington—Complication of Question of Titles—Land Office Removed to Dixon—Polish Agent's Claim Forfeited—Congress Passes New Law—Settlers Petition for Public Sale of Lands—History of This Memorable Sale—Perfect Titles Finally Secured—Truth Stranger Than Fiction 676-678

CHAPTER VIII.

THE BANDITTI OF THE FRONTIER AND LATER CRIMES.

A Well Organized Gang—Counterfeiters—Horse Thieves—Robbers—Murderers—Settlers Forced to Adopt Radical Measures—County Regulators—Murder of John Campbell—Lynch Law—Robbery of McKenney and Mulford—Indictment of Regulators—"Not Guilty"—Revolting Crimes—Exciting Criminal Cases on Record—Murder of Colonel Davenport—Regulators Finally Complete Their Work—Bandit Gang Exterminated—Murder of Sheriff Taylor—Ex-Governor Bebb Tried for Manslaughter—Later Murders and Executions 678-685

CHAPTER IX.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT.

Old Map of Northern Illinois—Organization of Counties Prior to 1835—Jo Daviess One of the Largest—History of Its Name—Since Divided into Nine Counties—Winnebago Now a Part—The Territory Included—First Census Enumerator—Order for First Election—First Judges of Election—Political Aspirants—First County

Officers Elected—No Australian Ballot System—List of Voters—County Divided into Precincts—No County Seat—No Public Buildings—Negotiations for County Seat—Law Specific Concerning Site—Interesting Chapter of Local History—Town of Winnebago Platted—Local Enterprises Started—First County Surveys—Reorganization of County—The Mile Strip Contest—First Tax Levy—Township Organization Law in Force—Seven Years of County Seat Controversy—Rockford Chosen—First Public Buildings—Further Controversy—Commissioners Select Permanent Building Site—West Rockford Designated—Mile Strip Legislation—Completion of Buildings—First Term of Court—A Movement of Secession—The Genius of Nathaniel Pope—Real Reasons for Widespread Movement—Heavy State Debt—The Historic Situation—Mass Meetings—Result of Popular Vote—Adoption of County Organization—Sheriffs—Treasurers—Coroners—Surveyors 685-699

CHAPTER X.

A QUARTER CENTURY OF DEVELOPMENT, 1835-1860.

Rockford Appropriately Named—Laying Out of Streets—Early Business Interests—Town Incorporated—Social Standards—Washington Irving's Kindred Here—Only Slave in County—Interesting Biographies—Early Public Improvements—First Military Company—Census Report in 1860—Cholera in 1853-4—Bayard Taylor's Beautiful Tribute to Rockford..... 699-712

CHAPTER XI.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS—NEW STATE CONSTITUTION.

River and Harbor Improvement—Historic Convention of 1847—Constitutional Convention at Springfield—New Constitution Adopted—Navigation Agitation—Board of Commissioners for River Improvement Appointed—Fund Created—Operations Begun—Ship Canal Proposed—Plan to Connect Lake Michigan with Mississippi River—Failure of the Scheme—Similar Conventions Held Twenty Years Later—Other Transportation Plans—Railroad Charter in 1836—Surveys for Plank Road in 1844—Incorporation of the Chicago and Rock Island Plank Road Company—No Plank Road Ever Constructed Under That Charter—The Only Slave Ever Found in Winnebago County 712-715

CHAPTER XII.

COURTS, BENCH AND BAR.

Early Court Elections—Six Judicial Circuits in 1835—Early Courts Convene in Dwellings—First Circuit Court—First Circuit Judge—First Petit Jury—First Grand Jury—First Court Buildings—Judiciary Re-organized in 1841—Circuit Judges—Seventy-one Years Covered—District and State's Attorneys—Circuit Clerks and Records—Probate and County Judges—Clerks of the County Court—Bar of Winnebago County, Past and Present—Second Woman Lawyer in State from Winnebago—Masters in Chancery..... 715-722

CHAPTER XIII.

WINNEBAGO IN POLITICS.

State Bonded Indebtedness—Critical Period for Illinois—Opinion of Governor Ford in 1842—State Debt Reduced During His Administration—Winnebago County Never Favored Repudiation—Elective and Appointive Laws—Early Congressional and Senatorial Districts—First Law Partner of Abraham Lincoln—Early Recognized Lincoln's Genius—Winnebago County Forges to the Front—Stable Citizens Elected to Office—Campaign of 1840—Whigs Carry in Local Elections—Interesting Side Lights—Abraham Lincoln Candidate for Presidential Elector—Death of President Harrison—Bitter Local Fight in 1841—John T. Stuart Re-elected to Congress—Thomas Ford Elected Governor—State and County Officials—Seven Congressional Districts in 1843—Winnebago County in Sixth District—Elections That Year—Further Political Changes—Mormons Move from Hancock County—Whig Party Successful in County Elections—Birth of Republican Party—Rockford's Claim—Citizens Register Protest against Slavery—Text of Call—Historic Meeting at Rockford—Abraham Lincoln Nominated for Senator in 1858—The Lincoln-Douglas Debates—Judge Douglas Elected Senator—Campaign of 1860—Winnebago County Gave Lincoln a Large Vote—Mr. Lincoln's election—Memorials to Stephen A. Douglas—County Repudiates New Constitution—Congressional Candidates in 1862—Political Activities—Lincoln Re-elected in 1864—Assassinated in 1865—The Author's Tribute to Abraham Lincoln—Winnebago County's Vote in 1868—In a Visit to Rockford General Grant Made a Pleasing Speech—Second Visit of General Grant—Memorable Political Gatherings—Profound Impression Made by Robert G. Ingersoll—In Presidential Vote Winnebago Supported James A. Garfield—Presidential Campaign of 1884—Rockford Entertains Distinguished Visitors—Official Vote—Political Demonstrations—Campaign of 1888—Official Vote of County—Politics in 1890—Able Men Sent to Congress—First and Subsequent Apportionments of State into Districts—Only Three Congressional Districts in 1831—Rapid Political Changes—Winnebago Represented by Men of National Worth—Rockford District for Fifty Years Represented by Three Men—Winnebago in the State Legislature—A Careful Record Covering Seventy-eight Years—County Vote in 1892—Presidential Election and Vote in 1896—Election and Vote in 1900—Statistics of 1908—In Presidential Election of 1912 Winnebago County Goes Progressive—In 1914 County Carried by Lawrence Y. Sherman for United States Senator 722-737

CHAPTER XIV.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Free Education Agitation—Ordinance of 1787—First Public School Law—Numerous Revisions—State School Funds—Lands Donated by Congress—Sales of Land—First Private Schools in Winnebago County—First Public Schools—Other Early Educational Institutions—Illinois Public School Law—History of Rockford Schools—East Side District—West Side District—Early Educators—Public

School Reorganization—Board of Education Litigation—The Central High School a Credit to the City—List of Principals—Present Superintendent—Tribute to a Man of Worth—Pageant and Parades—Passing of a Veteran Educator—Statistics—Board of Education—County School Districts—County Superintendents Since 1837—A Progressive Educator—Father of the Consolidated Schools—Present County Superintendent—Present Consolidated Schools—Traveling Libraries—Township Graduation Exercises—Certificates and Diplomas—School, Social Activities..... 737-751

CHAPTER XV.

ROCKFORD FEMALE SEMINARY AND ROCKFORD COLLEGE.

Educational Needs—Rockford Site Chosen for Seminary in 1845—Seminary Founded in 1851—Suitable Grounds Purchased—Buildings Erected—Biography of Anna P. Sill—Of Rev. Aratus Kent—Subsequent Seminary Principals—Seminary Becomes College in 1892—List of Presidents of Rockford College—Present Faculty—Board of Trustees—Gifts to Rockford College—Preparatory Department Abandoned in 1911—Successful Endowment Campaign—Second Oldest Woman's College in the United States.. 751-756

CHAPTER XVI.

LECTURE PLATFORM CELEBRITIES.

Intellectual Awakening—Earliest Lecture Organization at Rockford—Young Men's Association—Most Popular Lecturers of the Day Secured—E. P. Whipple—Horace Mann—George William Curtis—Horace Greeley—His Impressions of Rock River Valley—Prof. Joseph Emerson—Bishop Potter—Chancellor Lathrop—Judge Doolittle—Ole Bull—Adelina Patti—Rev. E. H. Chapin—Josiah Quincy—John G. Saxe—John Pierpont—James Russell Lowell—Bayard Taylor—P. A. Shillaber—Parke Goodwin—John B. Gough—Professor Youmans..... 756-757

CHAPTER XVII.

ROCKFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

First Circulating Library—First Public Library in 1858—In 1872 Library Established Under Library Law—First Public Library Board—"Father of the Library"—Appointment of Library Officials—Changes in Location—Libraries Placed in Public Schools—Gift of Civil War Books—Tribute to William L. Rowland—Present Librarian—Fireproof Building Erected—Gift from Andrew Carnegie—New Building Occupied in 1903—A Museum of Natural History Presented—Branch Library Opened—Deposit Stations—Number of Volumes in Library—Present Board of Directors..... 757-761

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE PRESS.

Evolution of the Newspaper—Enlarged Scope of Daily Issue—Illustrations a Marvel—Special Correspondents Cover Every Field—Newspapers of Rockford with Interesting Comments—Rock River Express—Rockford Star—Rockford Pilot—Better Covenant—Winnebago Forum—Rockford Forum—Republican—Rockford Register—Rockford Free Press—Rock River Democrat—Rockford Register—Daily Register—Rockford Daily Register—Register Gazette—Rockford Wesleyan Seminary Reporter—Cudgel—Spirit Advocate—Orient—Democratic Standard—Daily News—Crescent Age—Rock River Mirror—People's Press—Words for Jesus (Monthly)—Leaves Forest Hill (Monthly)—Rockford Gazette—Winnebago Chief—Golden Censer—Christian Gleaner—Rockford Daily Journal—Andrus' Illustrated Monthly—Methodist Free Press—Curiosity Hunter—Nowadays—Rockford Sunday Herald—People's Champion—Our Home and Science Gossip—Rockford Seminary Magazine—Rockford Collegian—Stamp News—Rockford Industrial Times—Hornet—Times—Rockford Daily News—Western Banner—Morning Herald—Rockford Furniture Journal—Monitor—Chicago Lever—Rockford Morning Star—Farmer's Monthly—Republic—Sunday Mercury—Spectator—Weekly Recorder—Owl—Rockford Trade Journal—Agricultural West—Winnebago County Schools—Rockford Labor Journal—Constitution—Journal of Practical Nursing—Rockford Air Brush—Union Printer—People's Journal—Forest City—Advocate—Rockford Chief—Rockford Union Record—Hammer—Swedish Newspapers—The Germania—Catholic Monthly—Country Press—Rockton Gazette—Pecatonica Independent—Pecatonica News—Rockton Herald—Winnebago Reflector—Rockton Weekly Echo—Cherry Valley Courier—Winnebago County Advertiser—Durand Argus—Free Press—Weekly Echo—Weekly Times—Record—Weekly Clipper—Gazette 762-769

CHAPTER XIX.

RAILROADS.

First Railroad Projected—Charter Granted in 1836—Galena and Chicago Union Railroad Company—Survey of Route—Lack of Financial Strength Suspends Work—Interest Continued in Winnebago County—First Railroad Meeting Held at Rockford—Convention at Rockford in 1846—Great Enthusiasm Aroused—Subscriptions to Stock—Leaders in the Work—The Original Plan—Work Resumed in 1847—An Amended Charter Secured—New Board of Directors Elected—William B. Ogden President—Engines Purchased in 1848—One Exhibited at Columbian Exposition in 1893—Extensions of Line—Road Brought Prosperity to Rockford—Sale of Right of Way—Present Chicago & Northwestern—Local Agents—Kenosha & Rockford Railroad—Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis—Rockford Central—Chicago & Superior—Chicago, Rockford & Northern—The Railroad War—Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul—Chicago, Burlington & Quincy—Illinois Central—Chicago, Milwaukee & Gary..... 769-776

CHAPTER XX.

CHURCHES.

Baptist — Brethren — Catholic — Christian (Disciples of Christ)—
Christian Science—Christian Union—Congregational—Episcopal—
Jewish — Lutheran — Methodist — Presbyterian — Swedish Evan-
gelical—Swedish Free Church—Unitarian—United Evangelical—
Universalist—Salvation Army—Volunteers of America—American
Bible Students' Association—Seventh Day Adventist—Spiritual-
istic Societies — Swedenborgians — Mormons — Dowieites — Beek-
manites 776-805

CHAPTER XXI.

MILITARY HISTORY.

The Civil War—Its Beginning—South Carolina Leads in Secession—
Bombardment of Fort Sumter—Rockford's First War Ser-
mons—President Lincoln's Proclamation—The Rockford Zouaves—
Vanguard of Winnebago County Soldiers—First Death—The
Rockford Rifles—Ketcheson's Company—Biography of Colonel
Ellsworth—Bishop Simpson—Eleventh Illinois Infantry—The Ellis
Rifles—Fifteenth Illinois Infantry—Funeral of Col. Ellis—Winne-
bago at Shiloh—Forty-fourth Illinois Infantry—Forty-fifth Illinois
Infantry—First Soldier of County Killed in Battle—Death of
Colonel Smith—Fifty-second Illinois Infantry—Fifty-fifth Illinois
Infantry—Volunteers for Three Months' Service—The Rockford
City Guards—Sixty-seventh Illinois Infantry—Seventy-fourth
Illinois Infantry—The Mulligan Guards—Ninetieth Illinois
Infantry—Eighth Illinois Cavalry—The Naval Service—A Spartan
Mother—Tribute to a Noble Woman—Soldiers' Aid Society—
County War Appropriations—War Bounties—Cost of the War—
Winnebago Exceeded Its Quota of Volunteers—Prisoners of
War—Grand Army of the Republic—Nevius Post—Commanders
Since 1866—State Encampments at Rockford—Tribute to Thomas
G. Lawler—Organization of Women—The Rifles—The Grays—
Their Organization as Militia—Belong to Third Regiment I. N.
G.—Veteran Corps Infantry—Other Organizations—Passing of an
Old Soldier—Soldiers' and Sailors' Home—Memorial Orators—
Rockford's Enterprise and Liberality—Observance of Memorial
Day—Memorial Hall at Rockford—The Spanish-American War—
Winnebago Responded Patriotically—Third Illinois Regiment—
Sixth Infantry—Seventh Infantry—Eighth Infantry—Third
Nebraska Infantry—First U. S. Volunteer Infantry—Fortieth
Wisconsin Infantry—Fifty-first Iowa Infantry—Fifth Wisconsin
Artillery—Third Missouri Cavalry—First U. S. Engineers—
Second U. S. V. Engineers—Number of Soldiers Buried at Rock-
ford 805-824

CHAPTER XXII.

THE MEDICAL AND DENTAL PROFESSIONS.

Many Physicians Among the Pioneers—Short Biographies of Well-
Known Practitioners—Winnebago County Medical Society—List of
Physicians at Rockford—Osteopathic Practitioners—Chiroprac-
tors—Dentists Well Represented..... 825-826

CHAPTER XXIII.

BANKING AND INSURANCE.

- A Financial Gibraltar—Oldest Rockford Bank—Winnebago National Bank—Bank of Rockford—Spafford, Clark & Ellis Bank—Founders of Third National Bank—Second National Bank—E. L. Fuller & Company, Bankers—E. H. Potter & Company, Bankers—Edward N. Kitchel, Banker—Private Bank of N. C. Thompson—First National Bank of Rockford—Second National Bank—The Oldest National Bank—The Third National Bank—The Rockford National Bank—The People's Bank—The Manufacturers' National Bank—The Forest City National Bank—Rockford's Youngest Bank—The Swedish-American National Bank—Increasing Deposits—Rockford Clearing House Association—Present Officers—Insurance—Rock River Mutual Insurance Company—Reaper City Insurance Company—Rockford Insurance Company—American Insurance Company—Forest City Insurance Company—Manufacturers' and Merchants' Mutual Insurance Company—Security Insurance Company—Reliance Insurance Company—Insurance Company of the State of Illinois—Mutual Companies in City and County—Life Insurance—Forest City Life Insurance Company—Rockford Life Insurance Company—Manufacturers' and Merchants' Life Insurance Company..... 826-831

CHAPTER XXIV.

ROCKFORD MUNICIPAL HISTORY.

- Contemporary Events—First Election Under New Law—Willard Wheeler First Mayor—First Bond Issue—Special Charter—New Ward Division—The License Question—First House Numbering—Seven Wards Created—License Became Paramount Issue in 1876—A Historic Cartoon—Rockford Incorporated Under General Law—First Subsequent Election—Referendum Vote—Women's Petition—The Special Ballot—High License Law—School Districts Consolidated—Party Lines Closely Drawn—Price set for Saloon Licenses—Public Parks Urged—First Street Paving—The Little Red Schoolhouse—Women Appointed on School Board—Mayor Hutchins' Controversy with Fire Marshal Heffran—In 1897 City Council Solid for License—Electric Light Contract—Other Public Improvements—Controversy Over Library Site—Reorganization of School Board—Organized Labor—First Local Option Election—Commission Form of Government—Present Mayor—Women Vote for City Offices in 1915—Minority Representation—Fire Department—Winnebago Engine Company—Washington Engine Company—Union Engine Company—Roster of Fire Marshals—Fire Stations—Modern Apparatus—A Creditable Organization—Police Department—Roster of Police Chiefs—A Fine Organization as a Whole—Improved Equipments—City Engineers—Street Paving—Health Department—Board of Election Commissioners—Bonded Indebtedness—Appropriations for 1916—City Officers, 1852-1916.. 831-853

CHAPTER XXV.

ROCKFORD'S PUBLIC UTILITIES.

Rockford Street Railway Company—Organized in 1880—West End Street Railway—Organized in 1890—Consolidated Systems—Rockford City Railway Company—Rockford Traction Company—Rockford Railway, Light and Power Company—Rockford & Belvidere Electric Railway Company—Rockford & Interurban Railway Company—Rockford & Freeport Electric Railway Company—Rockford, Beloit & Janesville Railroad—Rockford City Traction Company—Water Works System—Artesian Wells—Superintendents—Rockford Gas Light and Coke Company—Earliest in the Field—Original Cost—Present Status—Rockford Electric Company—Central Union Telephone Company—Home Telephone Company 853-860

CHAPTER XXVI.

A QUARTER CENTURY.

1865-1890.

Bulding Operations Up to 1880—The Fall of the Courthouse—Loss of Life—Blame Placed—A Transition Period—Severe Storms—Amos Bronson Alcott—Memorial Services for President Garfield—Mortuary Record of 1881—A Local Tragedy—Building Operations in 1882-3—Celebration of Semi-Centennial—Death of Notable Citizens—Events of 1885—Memorial Services for General Grant—Rockford's Loss of Eminent Men—Fire and Flood—Dwight L. Moody at Rockford 860-865

CHAPTER XXVII.

MANUFACTURING.

Rockford Hydraulic and Manufacturing Company—Building of the Dam—Accidents to the Dam—First Bridges at Rockford—First Foundry and Machine Shop—Rockford Water Power Company—Origin and Growth of Emerson-Brantingham Company—Advent of John H. Manny—Clark & Utter Manufacture His First Reaper—Suit in Federal Court—Famous Legal Talent Engaged—Abraham Lincoln One of the Lawyers—Death of John H. Manny—Firm Name Becomes Talcott, Emerson & Company—Subsequent Changes in Firm Style—Present Name Adopted in 1909—Largest Manufacturing Plant in Rockford—History of Thompson Manufacturing Company—Mention of Earlier Manufacturers—Rockford Bolt Works—Hess & Hopkins Leather Company—Rockford Brass Works—W. F. and John Barnes Company—Rockford Watch Company—Dobson Manufacturing Company—Union Foundry and Machine Company—Rockford Silver Plate Company—Andrews Wire and Iron Works—Eclipse Gas Stove Company—Ward Pump Company—Spengler-Loomis Manufacturing Company—Ingersoll Milling Machine Company—Free Sewing Machine Company—Barber-Col-

man Company—National Lock Company—Greenlee Brothers and Company—Stonefield-Evans Shoe Company—Rockford Drop Forge Company—The King Company—Burd High Compression Ring Company—Rockford's Knitting Industry—Rockford Seamless Socks First in the Market—Nelson Knitting Company—Rockford Mitten and Hosiery Company—Burson Knitting Company—Forest City Knitting Company—B. Z. B. Knitting Company—S. B. Wilkins Company—The Furniture Industry—Forest City Furniture Company—Union Furniture Company—Central Furniture Company—Cooperative Furniture Company—Rockford Chair and Furniture Company—Standard Furniture Company—Scandia Furniture Company—West End Furniture Company—Mechanic's Furniture Factory—Royal Mantel and Furniture Company—Rockford Frame and Fixture Company—Rockford Cabinet Company—Rockford Desk Company—Rockford Furniture Company—Empire Manufacturing Company—Illinois Cabinet Company—Excel Manufacturing Company—Rockford National Furniture Company—Rockford Palace Furniture Company—Rockford Bookcase Company—Rockford Superior Furniture Company—Rockford Cedar Chest Company—Rockford Light Furniture Company—Illinois School Furniture Company—Old Colony Chair Company—Monarch Furniture Company—World Furniture Company—Former Furniture Companies—Proposed Semi-annual Furniture Exposition—The Piano Industry—Haddorff Piano Company—Schumann Piano Company—Kurtz Action Company—List of Other Manufacturers—“Made in Rockford”—Principal Industries—A Quarter Century's Growth..... 865-886

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Cemeteries 886-887

CHAPTER XXIX.

ROCKFORD POSTOFFICE.

First Postmaster—First Postoffice Building—Early High Rate of Postage—Succeeding Postmasters—An Early Postmaster's Trials—Changes Between 1837 and 1861—Letter of President Lincoln—Senate Refuses to Confirm Jason Marsh—Thomas G. Lawler First Made Postmaster in 1878—Free and Special Delivery Established in 1882—John D. Waterman First Made Postmaster in 1885—Lawler and Waterman Alternate for Thirty Years—Present Postmaster—Fine Government Building—Stupendous Amount of Business Transacted..... 887-890

CHAPTER XXX.

ROCKFORD PARK SYSTEM.

A City of Parks—Park Board Organized in 1909—Twenty-five Parks, Squares and Triangles—Sinnissippi—Haskell—Haight—Fairgrounds—Vogt—Williams—Sunset—Crawford—Kimball—River View—Blinn—Myott—Hulin—Brown—Black Hawk—South—Southeast—John Spafford—Franklin—Northwestern—Boilvin Lovelace Point—Longwood Point—Beattie—Total Area—Cost of Park System—Officers of Park District..... 890-895

CHAPTER XXXI.

ROCKFORD IN BASEBALL.

Cradle of Baseball—Game Succeeded Cricket—Composition of First Ball—Famous Names—First Training Gained at Rockford—Forest City Baseball Club—Spalding and Anson Members—Short Biography of Abert G. Spalding, William T. Brown—Much Amateur Talent—First Minor League Organized—Park Provided—Rockford a Member of the I-I-I League..... 895-898

CHAPTER XXXII.

PUBLIC CHARITIES—INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES.

Rockford Hospital—Officials—Hospital Sunday Established—Many Generous Donations—Talcott Memorial Home for Nurses—Emerson Hall Hospital Addition—Training School Maintained—Hospital Completely Equipped—St. Anthony Hospital—Municipal Sanitarium—A Great Enterprise—Swedish-American Hospital—Winnebago County Home for the Aged—Jennie Snow Home for Aged Women—Y. W. C. Association—Y. M. C. A.—Boys' Club—Winnebago Farm School—Working Girls' Home—The Children's Home—Winnebago County Almshouse—Ladies' Union Aid Society—Visiting Nurse Association—Public Welfare Association—Swedish Union Aid Society—Humane Society—Women's Temperance Organizations—Central Women's Christian Temperance Union—Non-partisan Women's Christian Temperance Alliance—Temperance Guards—North Rockford W. C. T. U.—Swedish W. C. T. U.—Unions Maintained Also in South and West Rockford..... 898-905

CHAPTER XXXIII.

ROCKFORD AS A MUSICAL CENTER.

Rockford Spontaneously Musical—Rockford Musical Association—Series of Festivals—Harmonic Society Organized—Louis M. Gottschalk—The Choral Union—The Mendelssohn Club—Organizes in 1884—Large Membership—Present Officers—Mrs. Chandler Starr—Great Artists Visit Rockford—Schumann Club—Rockford Celebrities—Bands and Orchestras—Forest City Band Organized in 1867—Rockford Military Band—Dedrickson's Orchestra—Haddorff Piano Company Band—Barber-Coleman Company Band—Rockford High School Band—Emerson-Brantingham Company Band—Benedict Orchestra—Metropole Orchestra—Opera House Orchestra—Weber Quartet—Later Singing Societies—Sveas Soner—Lyran Club—American Union of Swedish Singers—Gesang Verein—Music Department of Rockford College—Churches Are Patrons of Music 905-910

CHAPTER XXXIV.

Brown's Hall—Opera House Completed—Celebrities of Stage and Platform—Managers of Opera House—Moving Picture Houses—Vaudeville Houses—Palace Amusement Company..... 911-915

CHAPTER XXXV.

CLUBS AND COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

Club Development—Organizations at Rockford—Chamber of Commerce—Manufacturers' and Shippers' Association—Traffic Club—Rockford Club—Rockford's Merchants' and Business Men's Association—East State Street Business Men's Association—Seventh Street Business Men's Association—Fourteenth Avenue Business Men's Association—Bar Association—Real Estate Board—The Rockford Woman's Club—The Monday Club—Oldest Woman's Literary Club in Rockford—The '84 Club—The Century Club—Catholic Woman's League—King's Daughters—Daughters of the American Revolution—The Outlook Club—The Advance Club—The Mother's Study Club—The Health Club—The Burns Club—Oldest Social Club in Rockford—Germania Gesang Verein—The Round Table—The Argonauts—Unity Club—Svea Soner Society—Commercial Club—Arts and Crafts Society—Rockford Art Association—Rockford Art Guild—University Club—Singers and Players Club—Country Club—Motor Club—The Waltonians—The Nature Study Club—Other Out Door Clubs..... 915-924

CHAPTER XXXVI.

FRATERNITIES AND TRADE UNIONS.

Rockford Friendly to Fraternities—Odd Fellows—Freemasons—Modern Woodmen of America—Elks—Knights of Pythias—Loyal Order of Moose—Vikings—Knights of Columbus—Brotherhood of American Yeomen—Royal Neighbors of America—United Workmen—Modern Brotherhood of America—Court of Honor—Guardians of Liberty—Foresters—Loyal Americans—Knights of the Maccabees—Ladies of the Maccabees—Ladies of the Modern Maccabees—Eagles—Order of Scottish Clans—National Protective Legion—National Union—North American Union—Homesteaders—Sons of St. George—North Star Benefit Association—Danish Sisterhood—United Commercial Travelers of America—Mystic Workers of the World—Continental Benefit Association—Danish Brotherhood—Knights and Ladies of Honor—Yeomen of America—I. O. M. A.—Owls—Royal Arcanum—Independent Order of Svithiod—Knights of Daniel—Good Templars—Woodmen of the World—Tribe of Ben Hur—Trade Unions—Union Label League—United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners—International Association of Machinists—Journeyman Barbers' International—Typographical—Painters, Paperhangers and Decorators of America—National Association of Letter Carriers—Post Office Clerks—Amalgamated and Butchers' Workmen—Plumbers'—Iron Moulders'—Brotherhood of Electrical Workers—Bricklayers' and Masons'—Sheet Metal Workers—Rockford Musicians'—Teamsters'—Garment Workers'—Co-operative Plasters' and Cement Finishers'—Lathers'—Cigarmakers'—Ice-men's—Building Trades Council—Pressmen's—Cabinetmakers' and Mill Workers—Stage Employes' Union—All Affiliated with Rockford Central Labor Union 924-928

CHAPTER XXXVII.

COUNTY FAIRS—AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.

Early Interest Aroused—Organization of an Agricultural Society—First Fair a Notable Success—Lapse of Interest—Winnebago County Agricultural Society Organized in 1856—Many Fairs Well Attended—Distinguished Men Attend as Speakers—The Episode of Jefferson Davis in 1875—Last Exposition Held at Rockford in 1902—City Purchased Fair Grounds for Park Purposes—Farm Improvement Association—Granges and Officials—Agitation for Improved Highways—Foot and Mouth Scourge..... 928-932

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

BIRDSEYE VIEW—1891-1916.

Visit of a Notable Evangelist in 1891—Building Operations in 1892—Short Obituaries—Rockford Chautauqua Assembly Organized in 1902—A Tribute to the Late Dr. George W. Brown—Present Population of Rockford—A Rockford Woman Appointed Head of a Government Department at Washington—Tornado in 1913—Hotels of Today—The Nelson—Hotel Leland—East Side Inn—Chick House Hotel Illinois—Hotel Poole—Hotel Du Nord—Rexton Hotel—Jarvis Inn—National Hotel—Wealth and Population—The Author's Inspiring vision of the Future Rockford..... 933-937

CHAPTER XXXIX.

TOWNSHIPS.

BURRITT.

No Railroad in Township—A Farming Community—No Towns Nor Villages—Wempletown a Hamlet and Formerly the Postoffice—Settled First in 1837—Names of Pioneers—Loss of a Historic Character—Biography of Rev. John Wilcox—Population..... 937-959

CHAPTER XL.

County Commissioners and Supervisors..... 959-970

CHAPTER XLI.

The Part of Biography in General History—Citizens of Winnebago County and Outlines of Personal History—Personal Sketches Arranged in Encyclopedic Order..... 971-1269

Agnew, Henry	652	Church, Charles A.....	<i>Frontispiece Vol. II</i>
Agnew, Margaret	652	Church, Selden M.....	640-645
Alling, D. D.....	640	Churchill, P. P.....	640
Altgeld, John P.....	270	Cochran, George	640
Atwood, Patten	640	Cole, W. J.....	640
Baker, E. H.....	640	Coles, Edward	254
Barrett, R.	640	Colton, Austin	640
Bateman, Newton		Conrad, Frank H.....	696
.....		Corey, A.	640
.....	<i>Following Title Page Vol. I</i>	Coy, Robert E.....	700
Belknap, N.	640	Cullom, Shelby M.....	266
Best, Jacob M. and Family.....	656	Cunningham, B. F.	640
Best, Simon P.....	660	Cunningham, S.	640
Best, Mrs. Simon P.....	660	Cutler, Robert	704
Beveridge, John L.....	266		
Billick, Augusta	664	Dale, Lyeurgus M.....	708
Billick, Edward W.....	664	Davis, Abram E.....	712
Bissell, William H.....	258	Davis, T.	640
Bixby, J. Milton.....	668	Deneen, Charles S.....	274
Blake, Thatcher	636-640	Dennett, George H.....	716
Blinn, Jesse	640	Denton, Homer	640
Blinn, W. C.....	640	Doolittle, P. S.....	640
Blomquist, Gust E.....	672	Dow, Daniel	640
Bond, Shadrach	250	Duncan, Joseph	254
Bower, Andrew C.....	676	Dunn, Elisha C.....	720
Bower, Sarah H.....	676	Dunne, Edward F.....	274
Brady, C. P.....	640		
Breckenridge, Fannie E.....	682	Edwards, Ninian	250
Breckenridge, J. Arthur.....	680	Ellis, Edward F. W.....	644
Brown, H. O.....	640	Enoch, A. I.....	640
Brown, M.	640	Enoch, H. R.....	640
Burroughs, Niram C.....	686	Erickson, Jonas	724
Burson, William W.....	644	Erickson, Mrs. Jonas.....	724
		Ewing, William L. D.....	254
Carlin, Thomas	258	Farmer, Leon	728
Chicagou (Chief)	246	Favor, Mary L.....	734

Favor, Oscar	732	Jewell, T. J.....	640
Ferguson, D.	640	Jewett, J. R.....	640
Ferguson, D. H.....	640	Johnson, Gust E.....	826
Fifer, Joseph W.....	270	Johnson, William	830
Fish, D.	640	Jones, Cassius C.....	840
Fitch, Edward	742		
Fitch, Mrs. Edward	742	Kern, John M.....	844
Fitch, John	640		
Fitch, W. H.....	640	Lake, John	640
Ford, Thomas	258	Lamb, O. E.....	640
French, Augustus C.....	258	Lansing, A. C.....	848
Fuller, L. B.....	640	Lansing, Elizabeth	848
		LaSalle, Reni Robert.....	246
George, S.	640	Latham, Henry A.....	852
Giffen, Alexander	746	Lawler, Thomas G.....	856
Giffen, Mary A.....	746	Levi, Rose H.....	860
Gilmore, Alice A.....	754	Levi, Samuel E.....	860
Gilmore, Leland S.....	754	Liddle, George and Family.....	864
Gilmore, Thomas	750	Lincoln, Abraham.....	<i>Frontispiece Vol. I</i>
Gilmore, Mrs. Thomas.....	750	Lind, Carrie S.....	870
Gilmore, Willis	754	Lind, Charles A.....	870
Goodhue, D.	640	Littlefield, Daniel C.....	874
Gregory, Carrie S.....	766	Loomis, H. W.....	640
Gregory, James B.....	766	Lyford, Emily M.....	882
Gustafson, Clarence A.....	770	Lyford, Joseph G.....	878
		Lyon, I.	640
Hall, Ellen	798		
Hall, Loly B.....	792	Marsh, Horace	886
Hall, Wright C.....	798	Marsh, Mrs. Horace	886
Halley, William	640	Marsh, Jason	637-640
Halsted, Jonathan H.....	802	Martin, Elias	640
Halsted, Mrs. Jonathan H.....	802	Martin, J. B.....	640
Hamilton, John M.....	256	Matteson, Joel A.....	258
Hance, Ogden	806	Maynard, Edward C.....	890
Hard, G. C.....	640	Maynard, H.	640
Haskell, George	636-640	McCartney, James W.....	894
Haskell, G. S.....	640	McDougall, Donald C.....	902
Herbert, Charles H.....	810	Mellen, Clark	906
Herrick, E. A.....	640	Miller, A. S.....	640
Herring, J. R.....	640	Miller, C. F.....	640
Hoffman, Abram M.....	814	Miller, William W.....	910
Holmes, G. O.....	640	Montague, R.	640
Horsman, C. I.....	640	Morrell, Rev. John.....	640
Houghton, B.	640	Morse, Charles S.....	914
Howe, O. Baxter.....	818	Morse, Henrietta	914
Howes, P.	640	Moulthrop, L.	640
Hoygard, Thomas G.....	822	Murtfeldt, William C.....	918
Hulin, William	640		

Murtfeldt, Mrs. William C.....	918	Shumway, Mrs. R. B.....	1000
Mutimer, Frederick	922	Silsby, H. H.....	640
Nelson, Augustus	926	Simpson, Robert	640
Nelson, John	645	Skeyhan, Fred F.....	1004
Nevius, Garrett L.....	644	Smith, Cecil C.....	1008
North, Frank R.....	930	Snyder, Aubrey A.....	1012
North, Mrs. Frank R.....	930	Sohner, Edward	1016
Oglesby, Richard J.....	262	Sohner, Mrs. Edward	1016
Page, Dorson D.....	934	Spafford, A. C.....	640
Palmer, John M.....	266	Spafford, Charles H.....	1020
Penfield, D. S.....	640	Spafford, John	640
Penfield, John G.....	958	Spalding, A. G.....	640
Pepper, Anna E.....	938	Spencer, Douglas W.....	1024
Peters, William	640	Starr, Ellen M.....	1032
Peterson, Pehr A.....	942	Starr, Melanethon	1028
Peterson, W. A.....	946	St. Clair, Arthur.....	250
Petrie, Eliza J.....	950	Stiles, John A.....	1036
Petrie, John	950	Stiles, R. S.....	640
Phillip, Peter P.....	954	Strand, John and Family.....	1040
Platt, John	640	Sumner, E.	640
Redington, H.	640	Swezey, Adoniram J.....	1044
Regan, M. H.....	640	Swezey, Malinda B.....	1048
Reid, Fred J.....	966	Taft, L. M.....	640
Reimer, Fred I. and Family.....	970	Talcott, S.	640
Revell, Edwin M.....	962	Talcott, T. B.....	640
Reynolds, John	254	Talcott, W. A.....	640
Richards, S. S.....	640	Talcott, Wait	636-640
Richardson, Charles H.....	974	Tanner, John R.....	270
Richardson, H.	640	Teague, John	1052
Robertson, T. D.....	640	Thompson, Emily M.....	1056
Rothwell, William A.....	978	Thompson, Joel M.....	1056
Rothwell, Mrs. William A.....	978	Thompson, Mrs. Joel M.....	1056
Ruggles, S.	640	Thompson, Joel M., Sr.....	1056
Salen, Swan A.....	982	Thurston, J. H.....	640
Salen, Mathilda	982	Tipple, Addie E.....	1060
Sanford, G. A.....	640	Tipple, Robert C.....	1060
Sawyer, Willis (Kit) E.....	986	Tonty, Henry de.....	246
Sayer, J. P.....	640	Twogood, W.	640
Schmauss, Anna	992	Wagner, Jacob W.....	1064
Schmauss, John	990	Wagner, Marthena L.....	1064
Selby, Paul.....	<i>Following Title Page, Vol. I</i>	Walton, William	1068
Sherwood, Charles M.....	996	Ward, Frank	1072
Shumway, R. B.....	1000	Ward, Frank R.....	1076
		War Eagle (Chief).....	246
		Waterman, J. C.....	640

Webber, Henry A.....	1080	Wilder, N.	640
Webber, Mrs. Henry A.....	1080	Williams, Charles	645
Welch, Patrick W.....	1084	Williams, Henry W.....	1106
Weldon, A. W.....	640	Williams, Mrs. Henry W.....	1106
Welty, Bert J.....	1092	Wood, John	262
Welty, Calvin	1088	Woodruff, S. M.....	1110
Welty, Grocelia M.....	1088	Works, Charles	640
Welty, Netty M.....	1094	Wyman, E.	640
Wheeler, Willard	637-640		
Widell, Swan O.....	1098	Yates, Richard, Jr.....	274
Wight, James M.....	637	Yates, Richard, Sr.....	262
Wiklund, Arvid	1102	Young, Hiram W.....	1114

ILLUSTRATIONS

B'nai Israel Congregation.....	781
Brethren Church	781
Brown School	739
Centennial M. E. Church.....	780
Central Christian Church.....	781
Christian Science Church.....	780
City Hall	836
Country Club	763
Courthouse (1844)	693
Courthouse (1878)	692
Court Street M. E. Church.....	788
Daniel S. Haight's Residence.....	648
Elks' Club	837
Emmanuel Episcopal Church.....	784
First Baptist Church	781
First Lutheran Church	777
First Presbyterian Church	777
Garrison School	738
Girder Bridge	759
Henry Freeman School.....	739
Home for the Aged.....	899
Kishwaukee School	739
Liddle Coat of Arms.....	866
Lincoln School	739
Mandeville House	648
Manny Mansion	649
Map of Winnebago County.....	<i>Following Title Page, Vol. II</i>
Masonic Temple	789
Memorial Hall	758

Nelson Bridge	759
Nelson Hotel	763
Old First Congregational Church.....	776
Old Log Cabin	693
Old Second National Bank.....	693
P. A. Peterson School.....	739
Postoffice	837
Public Library	758
Register-Gazette	762
Rockford College	785
Rockford High School	738
Rockford Hospital	898
Rockford Morning Star	762
Second Congregational Church.....	776
St. Anthony Hospital	899
St. James' Pro-Cathedral	784
St. Mary's Catholic Church.....	781
St. Paul's Lutheran Church.....	781
Steamer "Illinois"	759
Swedish Methodist Church.....	781
Trinity Lutheran Church.....	777
Turner School	739
Wight School	739
Young Woman's Christian Association.....	649



Charles A. Church.

HISTORY OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL REVIEW.

ILLINOIS FIRST A PART OF VIRGINIA—COLONIZATION COMPANIES GRANT OF LAND TO THE LONDON COMPANY—GRANT OF LAND TO THE PLYMOUTH COMPANY—NEUTRAL TERRITORY—FRENCH FIRST SETTLERS IN MISSISSIPPI VALLEY—EARLY EXPLORERS—MARQUETTE—JOLIET—LASALLE—TONTI—FRENCH COLONISTS FROM LOWER CANADA FOUNDED VILLAGES—KASKASKIA—CAHOKIA—VINCENNES—FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR—WINNING OF THE WEST—VIRGINIA ASSUMES TITLE TO THE ILLINOIS TERRITORY—DERIVATION OF NAME ILLINOIS—FIRST GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS—FIRST SEEDS OF NATIONAL UNITY—TRANSFER OF PUBLIC DOMAIN TO THE UNITED STATES—DIVISION OF NORTHWEST TERRITORY—WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON BECOMES GOVERNOR OF INDIANA TERRITORY—BIRTH OF ILLINOIS TERRITORY—ILLINOIS ADMITTED TO STATEHOOD.

ILLINOIS FIRST A PART OF VIRGINIA.

The territory now comprised within the state of Illinois first nominally formed a part of Virginia. The primal rights of the native Indians were never recognized by the explorers from the old world. The English crown, by virtue of discoveries made by the Cabots and the colonies planted by Sir Walter Raleigh, took formal possession of that portion of the new world known as Virginia. This name was given the new possession by the Virgin Queen, Elizabeth, in honor of herself. In 1606, early in the reign of King James I, two companies were

formed for the colonization of America. Virginia was divided into two parts. To the London Company the king granted South Virginia, which extended from Cape Fear, in North Carolina, to the Potomac. To the Plymouth Company he gave North Virginia, which stretched from Nova Scotia to Long Island. The region between the Potomac and the Hudson was left as a broad belt of neutral territory. Under the revised charter of 1609 these grants were to run in straight zones across the continent, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. They included "all the islands lying within one hundred miles along the coast of both seas" aforesaid. So little was then known of the geography of North America, that it was believed the continent at this latitude was no wider than in Mexico. Hence England made extensive grants of land on this continent in utter ignorance of its extent and configuration. This charter was subsequently annulled by *quo warranto*, and special commissions issued, in which the king declared that the charter was abrogated, for the benefit of the settlers; but that it should not affect their private or civil rights, but only the political rights of the company at home.

FRENCH FIRST SETTLERS IN MISSISSIPPI VALLEY.

The English colonists in Virginia, however, did not penetrate far into the interior. Thus the royal claim to the "land throughout from sea to sea west and northwest" did not secure the title of the English crown to this vast domain. The French were the first actual settlers in the great Mississippi valley. During the latter part of the seventeenth century Father Marquette, Joliet, LaSalle, Tonti and others explored the shores of the Father of Waters and his tributaries, and believed they had found a terrestrial paradise. LaSalle descended the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico. He named

the country Louisiana, in honor of his king, Louis XIV. By virtue of these explorations France made formal claim to the territory lying on either side of the Mississippi. Possession is said to be nine points in the law. According to this doctrine France, and not England, was the first European power to establish its claim to the Illinois territory by actual occupation. Between the years 1695 and 1705 colonies from Lower Canada founded the villages of Kaskaskia, Cahokia and Vincennes. The French government united its possessions in Canada with those in Louisiana by a chain of posts, from Quebec to New Orleans; and LeGrande Monarque made numerous grants to his favorites. The large number of grants of land made during this period indicate that Illinois even at that early day had attracted general attention. Thus, with English colonies on the coast, and French occupation in the valley of the Mississippi, it was only a question of time when there would come a final struggle for the possession of this vast territory.

FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.

This crisis came with the French and Indian war, the issue of which committed the destiny of the West to the Anglo-Saxon civilization. By the treaty of Paris, in 1763, Great Britain obtained all the French territory east of the Mississippi, with the exception of the island of New Orleans. France ceded New Orleans and all of Louisiana west of the Mississippi to Spain. In all the great continent of America, France retained not a foot of ground.

GEORGE ROGERS CLARK.

The special claim made by Virginia to the Illinois territory was based upon the bold conquest of this region by Colonel George Rogers Clark. In 1778 Colonel Clark conducted a series of brilliant campaigns against the military posts at Kaskaskia, Cahokia and Vincennes. These posts and those upon the lakes were in possession of the British, under the command of Henry Hamilton, whose headquarters were at Detroit. From these posts the Indians were supplied with munitions, and were thus enabled to harass the settlements in Kentucky with their cruel guerrilla warfare. The French villages, the only settlements in the region, were seats of British power. If these

posts could be taken, and the capture of the British soldiers effected, the entire region would be won for the Old Dominion. This result could only be effected by force; and the scheme appealed to the bold spirit of Colonel Clark. He presented the matter to Patrick Henry, who was then governor of Virginia. Henry's ardent soul quickly caught the flame, and he secretly rendered such assistance as came within his power. The outcome justified Colonel Clark's most sanguine expectations. His brilliant exploits constitute one of the most romantic chapters in pioneer history. The results were very great, and doubtless prepared the way for the purchase of Louisiana. If Clark had failed to conquer and hold the Illinois and Vincennes, there is reason to believe that the Ohio River would have been the boundary between the American and the British possessions. The colonial charters furnished color of title; but the American claim actually rested on the conquest and occupation of the West by Colonel Clark and the backwoodsmen. Thus the West was won by the westward movement of the backwoodsmen during the Revolution; by the final success of the Continental armies in the East; and by the diplomacy of Franklin, Jay and Adams in the Treaty of Paris. Failure at any one of these points would have given the British the possession of the West.

Colonel Clark spent his last years alone in poverty, in a rude dwelling on Corn Island, until he went to the home of his sister. When Virginia sent him a sword he received the compliments of the committee in gloomy silence and then exclaimed: "When Virginia wanted a sword I gave her one. She sends me now a toy. I want bread." He thrust the sword into the ground, and broke it with his crutch. His grave is in Cave Hill cemetery at Louisville, marked by a little headstone bearing the letters, G. R. C. It is said that not half a dozen persons in the United States can point it out. Fortune was unkind to him, and republics seemed ungrateful; but history must pay its just tribute to his genius, his patriotism, and his prowess.

DERIVATION OF NAME ILLINOIS.

Virginia assumed the title to this extensive territory, first by right of her charter, and

secondly by the conquest of her own arms. These claims, though challenged by the other states, were successfully maintained by the Old Dominion; and the territory was at once organized into a county called Illinois. This word is derived from the Algonquin word *Inini*, or *Illini*, which means a perfect and accomplished man. The Illinois were an Indian tribe of the Algonquin nation, who occupied a portion of the state which now bears their name.

FIRST GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS.

These events occurred during the administration of Patrick Henry as governor of Virginia, and therefore he may be said to have been the first governor of Illinois. By the treaty of Paris, in 1783, which terminated the Revolutionary war, the Illinois territory passed forever from the control of Great Britain. It was not clear, however, to whom the title was transferred. During the war four states had made claims either to the whole or to parts of this domain. They were Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York and Virginia. The first two colonies had received royal permission to extend from sea to sea. But Virginia was the lordly Old Dominion, which had actually conquered and held the disputed territory.

FIRST SEEDS OF NATIONAL UNITY.

At this juncture Maryland arose to the occasion in 1777, with a novel and practical suggestion. As a condition of ratifying the Articles of Confederation, Maryland insisted that the four claimant states should surrender their claims to the United States, and that the latter should create a domain which should be owned by the confederacy in common. In 1780 Congress recommended to the several states such cession of their several claims, and the creation of a national domain. Thus there were planted the fruitful seeds of national unity.

In pursuance of this recommendation Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York surrendered their claims, which were more or less shadowy. The magnanimity of Virginia was genuine. The Old Dominion made a complete surrender of the magnificent territory of which she was in actual possession. In this concession she was greatly influenced by Thomas Jefferson. October 20, 1783, the General

Assembly passed an act which authorized the delegates of the state in Congress to convey to the United States, on certain conditions, her entire territory northwest of the Ohio River. One of these conditions was that the ceded territory should be formed into states not less than 100, nor more than 150 miles square or as near thereto as circumstances would admit. Accordingly on March 1, 1784, Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Hardy, Arthur Lee and James Monroe, the delegates for the commonwealth in Congress, presented to the United States a deed of cession of the territory northwest of the Ohio River. By the Ordinance of 1787 Congress provided that not less than three nor more than five states should be formed from this territory, as soon as Virginia should alter her act of cession and consent to the same. Virginia, by her act of December 30, 1788, promptly ratified the Act of Congress of the preceding year, "anything to the contrary in the deed of cession of the said territory by this commonwealth to the United States notwithstanding." Thus was accomplished the transfer of this public domain to the United States.

DIVISION OF NORTHWEST TERRITORY.

By the Act of Congress of May 7, 1800, the Northwest Territory was divided. That portion east of a line drawn from the mouth of the Kentucky River to the British possessions, was called the Ohio Territory. The remainder, west of this line, was called Indiana Territory, and comprised the present states of Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. William Henry Harrison was appointed governor. Indiana Territory was divided by Act of Congress approved June 11, 1805, and that portion corresponding to the present southern portion of Michigan was set apart, under the name of Michigan Territory.

BIRTH OF ILLINOIS TERRITORY.

In 1809 the Indiana Territory was again divided. That portion lying west of the Wabash River and a line from that river due north to the British possessions, was constituted a separate government, under the name of Illinois. This area included the present states of Illinois, Wisconsin, and peninsular Michigan. The seat of government was fixed at Kaskaskia, where

a territorial legislature, which consisted of the governor and the judges, convened in June, 1809. Thus the machinery of the first grade of civil government was put in operation in Illinois Territory. In 1812 the Territory of Illinois was advanced to the second grade of territorial government. This organization continued until January, 1818, when the territorial legislature petitioned Congress for admission into the Union as a sovereign state. A bill for this purpose was presented in Congress in April, and through the influence of Nathaniel Pope, the territorial delegate, the northern boundary was extended from the line indicated in the petition to latitude $42^{\circ} 30'$. The reason for the change of the northern boundary line will be more fully explained in a subsequent chapter.

ILLINOIS ADMITTED TO STATEHOOD.

An Act of Congress of April 18, 1818, provided for the admission of Illinois into the Union. In August of the same year the Illinois convention adopted a constitution and ordinance accepting the terms of admission prescribed by Congress. The final act by which Illinois attained its present geographical and political status was a resolution of Congress, adopted December 3, 1818, which formally declared the admission of the state into the Union.

CHAPTER II.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS.

GEOLOGICAL DEPOSITS—GALENA, BLUE AND BUFF LIMESTONE—ST. PETER'S SANDSTONE—SURFACE GEOLOGY—THE LIMESTONES—ECONOMIC GEOLOGY—BUILDING STONE—GRAVEL—MOLDING SAND—LIME—CLAY—BUILDING SAND—LITTLE MINERAL WEALTH IN COUNTY — TOPOGRAPHY — WELL WATERED—ROCK, PECATONICA, SUGAR AND KISHWAUKEE RIVERS—KILLBUCK, KENT, KEITH AND KINNIKINICK CREEKS—DISTRIBUTION OF TIMBER—HISTORIC ROCK RIVER—MARGARET FULLER—

EAGLE'S NEST BLUFF—GANYMEDE'S SPRINGS—EARLY FLORA AND FAUNA—LACK OF ROADS A SERIOUS HANDICAP—INDIAN TRAILS ONLY NARROW PATHS—FEW INDIANS LATER THAN 1834.

GEOLOGICAL DEPOSITS.

The geology of Winnebago County is simple in character. There is first the usual quaternary deposits, which consist of sand, clays, gravels, boulders, subsoils and alluvium. Then follow the three well-known divisions of the Trenton limestone, which outcrop along the streams and hills, and show themselves in railroad cuts, wells and quarries in different parts of the county. These divisions are the Galena, Blue and Buff limestones of the western geologists. A perpendicular section, as near as could be constructed, exhibited the following strata: Quaternary deposits, average depth about 15 feet; Galena limestone, 96 feet; Blue limestone, 35 feet; Buff limestone, 45 feet. These measurements of the limestones were made at actual worked outcrops. At the time Volume V of the Geological Survey was published no evidence of the St. Peter's sandstone had been discovered, although it was then believed that it came near the surface at Beloit and Rockton. In 1885, however, when Rockford began boring artesian wells, the St. Peter's sandstone was discovered. Its upper surface was irregular, varying from 170 to 200 feet below the surface of the ground. This strata varies from 200 to 250 feet in thickness. James Shaw gave it as his opinion that the Trenton limestones were at the time of his survey the only ones that had been exposed or excavated in the county.

SURFACE GEOLOGY.

The surface geology comprises alluvial deposits, loess, and the drift proper. The usual alluvial bottoms exist along the Rock, Pecatonica and Sugar rivers. These are from one to five miles wide. On the latter two the deposit is deep, black, and rich, and supports in places a heavy growth of timber. The deposit along Rock River is not so rich, and is composed more of sands and clays, with occasional strips of better soil. A number of the bluffs along Rock River are composed in part of loess clays, in which no fluviatile shells were noticed. This formation is of quite limited extent. The

drift proper is very largely developed. It is composed of loose detrital matter, which is often of considerable thickness, brought from long distances, and deposited over large areas of the county. This material is thought to have been brought from the metamorphic regions of the North by the action of water. The railroad track from Beloit to Caledonia cuts at intervals through long, undulating swells of land. These swells are pure, unmodified, unstratified drift. Other railroads exhibit the same beds along their tracks, though in a less marked degree. Every township in the county has these gravel beds, and their underlying associate deposits of clay and sand.

THE LIMESTONES.

Two-thirds of Winnebago County is underlain by the Galena limestone. It is a heavy-bedded, yellowish, dolomitic limestone, compact and irregular. There are several notable quarries and outcrops. The first heavy outcrop of the Galena limestone on Rock River in this county is about three miles above Rockford. All the cuts on the Galena division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, which runs across the southern part of the county, show the lead-bearing rocks. One of the heaviest outcrops is east of Harlem station, on the railroad running from Rockford to Caledonia. The strata are massive and solid, and furnish splendid material for railroad masonry.

The Blue limestone succeeds the Galena in the descending order. It is largely developed in the northern and northwestern portions of the county. It is a thin-bedded, bluish-gray limestone. The first two cuts east of Shirland, made by the Western Union in its excavations for a track, are perhaps the best exposures of the Blue limestone.

Only a limited portion of the county is underlain by the Buff limestone. The chief outcrop of this formation is at the village of Rockton, where it is 45 feet in thickness.

ECONOMIC GEOLOGY.

The county is not without resources in economic geology. The three formations of the Trenton rocks, previously noted, furnish building stone of good quality. Age does not affect it, and buildings erected sixty years ago are

still well preserved. This is especially true of the Galena limestone. The quarries at Argyle, Rockford and at other points north and south of Harlem supply material for railroad masonry. The Buff also furnishes stone of good quality for ordinary mason work, and is easily quarried and worked. At present there is only one quarry of the Blue limestone in Rockford. Sands and clays for economic purposes are found almost everywhere along the banks of the rivers, and may be obtained from thickly strewn drift deposits. For some years a fine molding sand was obtained north of School street in Rockford, but this supply is now exhausted. About two miles northeast of the city there is a large surface of molding sand, which has been used by all the foundries in Rockford for the past ten years. There is also a quantity of molding sand in the vicinity of Rockton. Lime of excellent quality is obtained in large quantities in and around Rockford. Near Brown's Creek there is a bed of white clay; and good red brick is obtained from the clay in other parts of the county. There is also a supply of good building sand. Limestone for rubble masonry abounds in almost unlimited quantity about Rockford. Large footing stone is obtained, but nothing for ornamental purposes. There is no available sandstone in the county. There is a general uniformity with the geological formation of the Rock River valley. Bog iron exists around many of the springs, but this deposit has no economic value. The ground is impregnated with iron, which is soluble in water, so that it disintegrates lime mortar in the foundations to the extent that it is necessary to use cement in place of lime for foundations. The county possesses very little mineral wealth. The deposits of peat are not of great value. The peat is not available for fuel, and can only be used as a fertilizer. Copper in its pure state has occasionally been found; but there is no deposit of the metal.

TOPOGRAPHY.

The topography of the county may be briefly noted. It is well watered with fine streams. Rock River enters the county about six miles from its northeast corner, at Beloit, runs nearly due south to Rockford, then bends gradually to the west and enters Ogle County. It affords water-power at Beloit, Rockton and Rockford.

Pecatonica River enters the county from the west, eight miles from its southwestern corner, and flows in a general easterly and northerly course about twenty miles, and empties its turbid waters into Rock River near the village of Rockton. Sugar River enters the county from the northwest, and flows into the Pecatonica near the village of Harrison. Other streams are Kishwaukee River, and Killbuck, Kent's, Keith's, and Kinnikinick creeks. The Indian names of these streams have their significance. Pecatonica means the "crooked stream," or "muddy water." Sinissippi, the Indian name of Rock River, signifies "the rocky river." Kishwaukee means "clear waters." The name Winnebago is translated "fish-eater."

DISTRIBUTION OF TIMBER.

A considerable portion of the county was covered with timber of various qualities. There was much scattering timber and brush-land in the northwestern portion along Sugar River and its tributaries, and on portions of the northern bank of the Pecatonica. This area is interspersed with occasional swampy tracts. In the southern portion of the county, along and near the Kishwaukee creeks, the face of the country is rough, hilly, brushy, and was covered with an occasional growth of timber. A few miles below Rockford, along the northern bank of Rock River, and extending north and west from the same, there is a tract of barrens covered with brushwood, and a light growth of white oak and other timber. The other portions of the county are chiefly prairie, interspersed with small and beautiful groves. For agricultural purposes the county is not considered equal to Stephenson on the west, nor "Little Boone," its eastern neighbor.

Much of the country around Rockford was originally prairie. The first settlers found the west side of what is now the city largely wooded, reaching south below Knowlton street, and north as far as Fisher avenue, and extending west beyond the creek, and to the high ground of South Rockford, and up the south branch; also on the east side from near State, south to Keith's Creek, and east to creek and to Sixth street. North of State, on the flat, was wood and brush up as far as the brewery. John H. Thurston gives this vivid description of the east side of the river as it appeared in

the spring of his arrival: "The season of 1837 opened early, and as the earth became clothed in green, it presented the most beautiful landscape I have ever seen. Innumerable flowers dotted the scene in every direction. What is now the Second ward was covered with tall, thrifty white oak timber. The fires had killed most of the underbrush, and it was a magnificent park from Kishwaukee street west to the river, and from Walnut street south to the bluffs at Keith's Creek."

Geological Survey of Illinois, Volume V, furnishes the most complete information concerning the geology and topography of Winnebago County, a work published by the authority of the legislature of the state. The article devoted to this county was contributed by James Shaw, and many of the facts given in this chapter were taken therefrom.

HISTORIC ROCK RIVER.

Rock River is a historic waterway, and presents a great variety of picturesque scenery. Southey's apostrophe may be addressed to her: "Thou art beautiful, queen of the valley! thou art beautiful." The Rock has practically two heads: the smaller, in a rustic stream which flows from the north into swamp-girted Lake Koshkonong; the larger, in the four lakes at Madison, the charming capital of Wisconsin, which empty their waters into the Avon-like Catfish or Yahara, which in turn pours into the Rock below Lake Koshkonong. The river at Rockford, before it was dammed, was 9 or 10 feet below its present level, and about 4 rods narrower, with clear gravel bed, and no mud or swamp about its shores. The water was very clear and pure before the cultivation of the land on its banks had caused the wash of soil by the rains. There is an interesting historic spot on the river some miles below Rockford. Margaret Fuller visited Oregon in 1843. There she found new themes for her muse. At the river-side there is a fine spring whose waters are cool and unfailing. On the bluff above it today are growing gnarled and twisted cedars. In the branches of one there was an eagle's nest. Beneath its shade Margaret Fuller wrote her poem, "Ganymede to his Eagle." The spring still sends forth its pure stream, and hundreds of people visit the spot. Under the shadow of the trees which falls upon the pool, they read

the marble tablet set in the solid rock above, which bears this inscription: "Ganymede's Springs, named by Margaret Fuller (Countess d' Ossoli), who named this bluff Eagle's Nest, and beneath the cedars on its crest wrote 'Ganymede to his Eagle,' July 4, 1843."

The level at the intersection of State and Madison streets, Rockford, East side, was about 10 feet higher than at present. At the intersection of State with First the level was about 10 feet lower than it is today. Between these two points the ground was 6 feet above its present level. From the river bank to Madison was therefore quite a steep ascent. West of the river, the ground was low, as it now appears at the knitting factories, and so continued nearly to Main street, as it yet remains in some places. South of the depot of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, on the West side, and from 10 rods west of Main street, the land was low, only a little above the creek, with the exception of the ridge near the creek. When the dam was built this area was called the pond. This depression has been filled, and the site is mainly devoted to railroad purposes. The bluffs at the college grounds descended steep to the water's edge, unbroken and unworn. They were covered with grass, brush and trees on the top and sides. There were many red cedars, some of which were large and gnarled. The whole formed a pleasant and romantic spot.

FLORA AND FAUNA.

Wild flowers were abundant, both on the prairies and in the woods, and were of great variety and beauty. Hickorynuts, butternuts, black walnuts and hazelnuts were plenty. In fruits, there were crab apples, wild plums, thorn apples, grapes, blackberries, raspberries and strawberries. Game was plentiful. Deer, squirrel, woodchuck, wild geese, ducks, crane, heron, plover, snipe, prairie hens, partridges, quail, loon, gull, and pigeons abounded, and the timber sheltered wolves, wildcat, otter, coon and muskrat. Mr. Thurston says: "Having never shot a game bird previous to my arrival in Rockford, the vast quantity of feathered game which I saw migrating northward in the spring of 1837

excited my unbounded surprise and admiration." Fish of the varieties now found in this locality was abundant. Wild honey was obtained in considerable quantity. The small birds then found still remain, except those taken for game. Snakes were quite numerous. The rattlesnake and the massasauga were poisonous, and the blowing adder and a variety of water snake were also so considered. Today a snake is rarely seen, except in woodland and on river bottoms.

At first there were no roads, and the first track would be followed until a road was worn or a change made. The crossing of streams and sloughs was difficult. East of the city, and running nearly parallel with the river, was a wagon road made by the army wagons and trains at the time the troops under Major Smith passed on their way to the battle of Bad Axe, in Wisconsin, in 1832, where Black Hawk was defeated. This road, however, did not run on the line needed by the settlers, and it was soon obliterated. The Indian trails were of little use. The red men always went single file, so that their trails were but narrow paths, and of no special value to the settlers. These trails were easily traceable as late as 1840, and possibly later.

Few antiquities, save arrows and hammers, were found, and the early race left little to mark its occupation of this region. Only a small number of Indian graves were found, and these did not indicate careful burial. Some traces of burying on scaffolds and in trees were supposed to remain; but little information can be obtained upon this point. The headless Big Thunder skeleton sat in his stockade on the courthouse mound in Belvidere as late as the autumn of 1838. But neither his renown as a warrior and chief, nor common reverence for the dead, protected his bones or marked their grave. The most of the Indians departed from this neighborhood in 1834. There were a few Pottawatomies in the vicinity of Rockton. Rock River was apparently the dividing line between the Pottawatomies and the Winnebagoes. The latter were removed to their western reservation. Those who occasionally returned, singly or in small companies, to revisit their former home, were harmless to the settlers.

CHAPTER III.

INDIAN HISTORY.

MOUNDS IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY—THREE KINDS—
 OPINIONS OF ARCHÆOLOGISTS CONCERNING THEIR
 BUILDERS—WINNEBAGO COUNTY IN INDIAN HIS-
 TORY—INDIAN TREATIES—TREATY OF 1829—IN-
 DIAN ELOQUENCE—FLOATING LANDS—DEPARTURE
 OF THE WINNEBAGOES—CEDE THEIR LANDS EAST
 OF THE MISSISSIPPI—WINNEBAGO WAR—WINNE-
 BAGO NAME PERPETUATED—FORT WINNEBAGO—
 JEFFERSON DAVIS AN OFFICER OF ITS FIRST GAR-
 RISON—THE SACS AND FOXES—TREATY OF 1804
 —BLACK HAWK DENIES ITS VALIDITY—DETER-
 MINES TO RESIST REMOVAL OF TRIBE—BORN ON
 SITE OF ROCK ISLAND—THE BLACK HAWK WAR—
 SETTLERS CALL FOR PROTECTION—BLACK HAWK
 VIOLATES THE TREATY OF 1832—AGAIN CROSSES
 THE MISSISSIPPI—ENCAMPS AT DIXON'S FERRY—
 FIRST FATALITIES—BATTLE OF STILLMAN'S RUN—
 ITS SITE COMMEMORATED BY A GRANITE SHAFT
 —GENERAL SCOTT REACHES FORT DEARBORN—
 BLACK HAWK RETREATS—END OF WAR—BLACK
 HAWK SURRENDERS—SPEECH OF BLACK HAWK
 —HIS IMPRISONMENT—RELEASE AND DEATH—
 HIS CHARACTER—LINCOLN'S COMMENT ON THE
 WAR.

MOUNDS IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY.

In his "Pre-historic Races of the United States," Prof. J. W. Foster says: "The subordinate valleys of the Rock River, the Fox, Kankakee and Illinois, show abundant evidence of former occupancy by the Mound-builders, and whilst the mounds are inconspicuous, they are not destitute of relics, and the human remains are indicative of a race whose skulls are marked by peculiarities which distinguish them from the red man."

Three classes of mounds were found in Winnebago County. There was the common round mound, from 10 to 30 feet in diameter, and from 2½ to 5 feet high. These mounds were quite numerous along the banks of the Rock, Kishwaukee and Pecatonica rivers. The oblong-shaped mound is much less common, but is frequently remarkable for its great length. One

was found within the present limits of Rockford which measured 130 feet in length, 12 feet wide at the base, and 3 or 4 feet high. Mounds of the third class have a fancied resemblance to some form of animal life, and are called "effigies." The most common forms of these are called Bird and Turtle mounds, and are found in many localities in the county. Some fine specimens of this class, as well as the round and oblong mounds, are still carefully preserved on the grounds owned by the Misses Beattie and those of the late G. A. Sanford, north of the Rockford water-works, on the west side of the river. Some of these mounds were disturbed when the homes fronting on Indian terrace were erected. That portion of the Sanford estate between Indian terrace and North Main street is now owned by heirs of the late Ralph Emerson. The round mounds were frequently constructed for the purpose of sepulture, the elongated for circumvallation or as "game-drives," while the effigies were probably ceremonial.

A number of archæologists believe that the builders of these mounds were a race inhabiting this country before the American Indian; and in the absence of any information concerning their origin, they are denominated "mound-builders." Other recent authorities incline to the opinion that the mounds were constructed by the ancestors of the Indians. Their earth-works are found in large numbers in Rockford and vicinity; there are probably not less than five hundred within the limits of Winnebago County. These earliest inhabitants had no beasts of burden, and naturally their travel and traffic were largely by canoe up and down the rivers. Their settlements, therefore, and their monumental mounds were uniformly located near or upon the river banks; and in the vicinity of the confluence of streams these united evidences of a dense population are generally abundant. Near the mouth of Kishwaukee River more than one hundred have been surveyed by Prof. T. H. Lewis, and probably as many existed near Rockton before their demolition during the progress of railroad construction and other improvements. When the cut was made in East Rockford in grading for the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad in 1852, many mounds were destroyed; and gruesome evidence of the sepulchral purpose of some of them was given by the fragments of human skeletons disinterred.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY IN INDIAN HISTORY.

Winnebago County does not figure prominently in Indian history. The Winnebagoes occupied it as a portion of their reservation at one time. The earliest Winnebago traditions relate to their residence at Red Banks, on the eastern shore of Green Bay, in Wisconsin, where they traded with the French. This tribe was first met by the Jesuit fathers near the mouth of Fox River, at the head of Green Bay. Confusion may arise from the fact of two rivers with the same name in the same state. One stream rises in Waukesha County and flows in a general southerly direction and enters the Illinois River at Ottawa. The other rises near the southern boundary of Green Lake County, flows westward to Portage City, thence northward until it expands into Lake Keweenaw; after a tortuous course it enters Lake Winnebago, issues from the northern end of this lake, flows northeastward and enters Green Bay. These streams are distinguished respectively as Fox River, and Keweenaw River of Green Bay. The latter is always understood whenever the name is mentioned in connection with the history of this tribe.

The Winnebagoes belonged to the Dakota or Sioux nation. During the era of authentic history they wandered to southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois and Iowa. In 1812 the Winnebagoes of Illinois occupied a section, of which this county formed a part. To the south were the Illinois tribes, and the disputed territory between the two shifted north and south as the fortunes of war favored the one or the other. In time, however, the Winnebagoes were driven well back within the present limits of Wisconsin, and were subsequently regarded as a tribe of that state. The territorial claims of these contestants were not finally settled until 1825. By a treaty negotiated at Prairie du Chien August 19 of that year between the United States, the Winnebagoes, the Sacs and Foxes, the Pottawatomies and other attending tribes, the boundaries of the Winnebago country were finally determined. Thus was peace established after a nearly continuous warfare of almost two centuries.

The records of the interior department at Washington show not less than twelve treaties negotiated between the United States and the Winnebagoes, during the period of fifty-one

years from 1816 to 1867. The most important treaty was negotiated at Prairie du Chien, August 1, 1829, by which the Winnebagoes ceded to the United States certain lands in Illinois, of which Winnebago County west of Rock River was a part. The consideration was "eighteen thousand dollars in specie, annually, for the period of thirty years; which said sum is to be paid to said Indians at Prairie du Chien and Fort Winnebago, in proportion to the numbers residing within the most convenient distance of each place respectively; and it is also agreed, that the said United States shall deliver immediately to said Indians, as a present, thirty thousand dollars in goods; and it is further agreed, that three thousand pounds of tobacco and fifty barrels of salt, shall be annually delivered to the said Indians by the United States for the period of thirty years."

TREATY OF 1829.

Caleb Atwater was one of the commissioners on the part of the United States government in negotiating this treaty. In a book in which he gives an account of the proceedings of this council he takes occasion to remark at considerable length on the beauty and force of Indian oratory as displayed on that occasion. He says their persons are the finest forms in the world. As he stands erect, with eyes flaming with ardor, and a mind laboring under an agony of thought, the Indian is a most impressive orator. When he speaks before his assembled nation on some great national subject, he shows most forcibly that he feels an awful responsibility in what he attempts to advocate in behalf of his people. Mr. Atwater relates that he has seen a chief, when he approached the sale of his country in his speech, turn pale, tremble with fear, and sit down perfectly exhausted in body from the effect. In council on such occasions, on either side of the speaker, sit all the chiefs and warriors of his nation; behind him, within sound of his voice, sit the women and children. His subject then becomes of the highest conceivable importance to himself and his entire nation. In such a position the character of his eloquence is easily conceived. It abounds with figures drawn from every object which nature presents to his eye. He thanks the Great Spirit that he has given them a day for holding their council without clouds or with few, as the case

may be; that the several paths between their homes and the council fire have been unattended with danger; and hopes that during his absence the beasts may not destroy his corn, nor any bad bird be suffered to fly about the council with false stories. Thus far the speaker may have proceeded without enthusiasm; but should he touch upon the sale of his country, his whole-soul is in every word, look and gesture. His eye flashes fire, he raises himself upon his feet, his body is thrown in every attitude, every muscle and nerve is strained to its utmost tension. His voice is clear, loud, distinct and commanding. He becomes, to use his own expressive phrase, *a man*. Then he recalls, with deep pathos and genuine eloquence, the time when his ancestors inhabited the entire continent, and how they have been driven by the white man from river to river, and from mountain to mountain, until they now have no home in which they may live in peace.

FLOATING LANDS.

Article V of the Treaty of Prairie du Chien granted sections of land to certain Indian descendants of mixed blood who did not wish to migrate with their tribe. Thirty-six of these descendants were given one section of land each; two received two sections each; and three received two sections jointly. The total grant was forty-two sections, divided among forty-one grantees. These grants were unlocated or "floating" lands. From this fact came the word "float," by which these sections were popularly known. The grantees were allowed to select a section, and their choice was to be approved by the Indian commissioner and by the president of the United States. There were several of these "floats" in Rockford Township. The east half of section 14 and all of section 13 west of Rock River, containing 637 acres, were located for Catharine Myott. Further reference to this tract will be made in a subsequent chapter. Section 21 was located for Therese Lecier, child of Mauh-nah-tee-see; section 22 was selected for James Lecier; and section 27 for Simon Lecier. These sections now comprise the most populous and wealthy portions of West Rockford, with its thousands of beautiful homes. There were other "floats" located in this immediate vicinity, some of which may be noted. Section 11 in Rockford Township was

claimed by Domitille, child of John Baptiste Pacquette. Besides the section above mentioned, Catharine Myott was given another section, of which the west half of section 10 forms a part. One section in Winnebago County was given to Brigitte, the child of Hee-no-kau. These lands could not be sold without the consent of the president of the United States. The Indians were the wards of the nation, and the approval of the president was required by the treaty for their protection from dishonest speculators; but this precaution was not always successful. There is no evidence of local record that the transfer of Brigitte's claim by the original grantee has ever been approved by the president. A full list of these "floats" located in this county may be obtained from the Tract Book in the office of the county recorder.

DEPARTURE OF THE WINNEBAGOES.

Upon the close of the Black Hawk war, by the terms of the treaty negotiated by General Scott, September 15, 1832, the Winnebagoes ceded their lands lying east of the Mississippi, in Wisconsin, and accepted a reservation in Iowa, designated as the Neutral Ground. The Winnebagoes were loth to emigrate, and their removal was finally effected by the government in 1837. By another treaty, concluded November 1, 1837, they finally ceded all of their lands lying east of the Mississippi River. By the terms of this treaty they were to remove west of this river within eight months thereafter. Their reservation was subsequently changed several times, until in 1865 they were permanently located on their Omaha reservation in Nebraska. In 1890 there were 1,215 Winnebagoes on this reservation; and nearly an equal number were scattered over Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan, where they now live chiefly by agriculture, with a strong predilection for hunting.

The Winnebagoes were men of good stature and dignified bearing, with the characteristic black hair, black, glistening eyes, and red skins of the Indian race. They maintained the position of a tribe of independent feelings and national pride. The claim made for them of considerable mental capacity is sustained by the cranial measurements made some years ago at the Academy of Natural Sciences at Philadelphia. In these examinations their crania were

shown to have an average internal capacity of 89 cubic inches, and a facial angle of 79 degrees. The so-called "Winnebago war" occurred in 1827, in the vicinity of Galena. It was more of a scare than a war, and has no local interest.

WINNEBAGO NAME PERPETUATED.

For many years after the Winnebagoes had removed from this section, small companies would occasionally return to visit their former hunting-ground. As Israel could not sing the songs of Zion in a strange land, so these red men of the forest could not forget their early home. The love of country and kindred is the same in subject or in king. It is a universal passion that makes the wide world kin. The Creator hath made of one blood all nations of men. The Winnebago has given a name to a lake, a fort, a village and a county in Wisconsin, and to a village, a township and a county in Illinois. The Wisconsin Indian village is the present city of Beloit. Fort Winnebago is a historic spot. Its site is within two miles from the present city of Portage, Wisconsin. The fort was built in 1818-29, at the solicitation of John Jacob Astor, of the American Fur Company, to protect his trade from the Winnebagoes. Jefferson Davis was one of the first lieutenants in the original garrison.

THE SACS AND FOXES.

The Sacs, according to an Indian tradition, were first placed by the Great Spirit in the vicinity of Montreal. Their enemies conspired to drive them from their home to Mackinac and other points, until they built a village near Green Bay, on what is now Sac River, a name derived from this circumstance.

The Foxes were first found on the northern shore of Lake Ontario. From there they were driven to Detroit, thence to Mackinac, and from there to the river which bears their name, at a point near its entrance into Green Bay. The Foxes subsequently abandoned their village, and formed a treaty of alliance with the Sacs. Neither tribe was sufficiently strong to successfully meet its enemies. Hence they became one nation, and the bond of friendship was never broken. This allied tribe belonged to the Algonquin nation. The Sacs and Foxes remained for some time in the vicinity of Green Bay. But as

early as 1718 they had obtained a firm footing on Rock River. A party of their young braves descended the Rock to its mouth, and upon their return they presented a favorable report of the country. The entire tribe then migrated to the southwest, drove the Kaskaskias from the country, and founded a village on the point of land at the confluence of the Rock and Mississippi rivers. At the beginning of this century the Sacs and Foxes occupied lands in northwestern Illinois lying between the Winnebagoes and the Mississippi River.

1173231

TREATY OF 1804.

In 1804 a treaty was negotiated at St. Louis between William Henry Harrison and five chiefs of the Sac and Fox nation. Mr. Harrison was then governor of the Indiana Territory, and of the district of Louisiana, superintendent of Indian affairs for the district, and commissioner plenipotentiary of the United States for concluding the treaty. By this treaty the Sacs and Foxes ceded their land on Rock River and territory elsewhere to the United States. The treaty provided that the Indians should retain these lands until they were required for settlement. During the war of 1812 with England, through the influence of Colonel Dixon, a British officer at Prairie du Chien, a portion of this tribe allied itself with the English. This faction was called the "British Band," and Black Hawk was its acknowledged leader. The other portion of the tribe remained peaceable during the war, and reaffirmed the treaty of 1804 at Portage des Sioux, in September, 1815. The hostile warriors professed repentance for their violation of good faith, and at St. Louis, in May, 1816, they confirmed the treaty of 1804. A small party, however, led by Black Hawk, a chief of the allied tribes of the Sacs and Foxes, persistently denied the validity of the treaty of 1804 as well as all subsequent agreements. He contended that certain chiefs, while at St. Louis in an intoxicated condition, were induced to sell the Indian country without the consent of the nation. Competent authorities have differed concerning the equity of the treaty of 1804; but the Sacs and Foxes as a nation never disavowed it. On the contrary, they reaffirmed it in the treaties of 1815 and 1816.

Amicable relations existed between the Sac and Fox nation and the United States from the

close of the war with England until 1830. In July of that year Keokuk, another Sac chief, made a final cession to the United States of the lands held by his tribe east of the Mississippi. According to this treaty, his people were to remove from Illinois to the country west of the Mississippi and they quietly removed across the river. This treaty was negotiated without the consent of Black Hawk, and he determined to resist the order of the government for the removal of his tribe west of the Mississippi. This resistance brought affairs to a crisis.

THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

The Black Hawk war directed the attention of eastern settlers to the Rock River valley. The history of this outbreak also has a local interest from the fact that this famous Indian warrior, in his flight from Rock Island, followed the general course of Rock River through this county, into Wisconsin territory, where he was defeated and captured. Ma-ka-tai-me-she-kia-kiah, or Black Hawk, was born at the Sac village, on the site of Rock Island, in 1767. About 1833 a book was published at Rock Island, which purported to be an autobiography of Black Hawk. Subsequent editions of this work have been published. Governor Ford, however, in his "History of Illinois," places little value upon this work. He says it was dictated by Colonel Davenport, an old Indian trader, and Antoine Le Clair, a United States interpreter for the Sacs and Foxes, and edited and published by J. B. Patterson. Governor Ford believed that Black Hawk knew comparatively little of this alleged autobiography, although it has been recognized as authority by reliable writers upon this subject.

During the winter of 1830-31 Black Hawk and his tribe left their village, as usual, and crossed the Mississippi on a hunting expedition, to procure furs wherewith to pay their debts to the traders, and buy new supplies of goods. They re-crossed the river in April, and on their return they found their village in possession of the pale-faces. The United States had caused some of these lands, which included the chief town of the nation, to be surveyed and sold. A fur-trader at Rock Island had purchased the very ground on which their village stood. Black Hawk ordered the settlers away, and destroyed their property. A truce was arranged, but it

did not permanently settle the difficulty; and May 18 eight settlers addressed a memorial to Governor Reynolds, in which they stated their grievances. The governor immediately communicated with General Gaines, of the United States army, who was then in command of the military district. General Gaines repaired to Rock Island in June, with a few companies of regular soldiers. Upon ascertaining the critical situation, he called upon Governor Reynolds for mounted volunteers. The governor honored the requisition, and in response to his call 1500 volunteers from the northern and central counties rallied to his support at Beardstown, and were placed under command of General Duane, of the state militia. This army, after a few days' march, joined General Gaines below Rock Island, where the two generals formed a plan of action. General Gaines took possession of the village June 26; but Black Hawk and his band had quietly departed during the night in their canoes for the western shore of the Mississippi, where they raised the white flag of truce. They subsequently re-crossed the river, and thus claimed protection. On June 30 General Gaines negotiated a treaty with Black Hawk and his chiefs and braves, by which they agreed to remain forever on the western side of the river; and never to re-cross it without permission from the president of the United States or the governor of the state. Notwithstanding the treaty, in the spring of 1832 Black Hawk attempted to re-assert his right to his former territory.

Hostilities began in April, when Black Hawk and his band re-crossed the Mississippi, under pretense of paying a visit to his Winnebago friends in Wisconsin. The manifest purpose of this visit was to form an alliance with the Winnebagoes in offensive warfare. General Atkinson, who was then in command of Fort Armstrong, sent messengers to warn Black Hawk to return. The warrior did not heed the warning, but continued his march until he reached Dixon's Ferry, where his braves encamped. The news of Black Hawk's return to Illinois reached Governor Reynolds, who raised a force of eighteen hundred men, under command of General Whiteside. This army arrived at Dixon on the 12th of May. Meanwhile Black Hawk had departed and encamped on Rock River thirty miles above.

While at Dixon an ambitious officer named

Stillman asked the privilege of making a reconnaissance on Black Hawk's camp. It was granted with reluctance, and Major Stillman started with two hundred and seventy-five men on the adventure. When the volunteers approached the camp of Black Hawk, he sent a party of six men to meet them, under protection of a white flag. By some mistake, undisciplined volunteers fired upon them, and two were killed while in retreat. Black Hawk was justly indignant, and he resisted the attack with his usual spirit. The result was the slaughter of eleven volunteers, and the others fled in confusion. This was the first blood drawn in the Black Hawk war.

STILLMAN'S RUN.

On the following day General Whiteside led his entire force to the scene, near a creek since called Stillman's Run. Fourteen years after the battle of Stillman's Run, Joshua White entered the tract of land where the engagement was fought, from the government. By this time the graves had become sodded, but were not difficult to locate. The half acre was never broken by the plowshare, and was regarded as a sacred spot. After the death of Mr. White, in 1890, this tract was platted and became a part of the village of Stillman Valley. It was owned by strangers, and the exact site of the graves became unknown. In November, 1899, the owner offered the parcel of ground for sale.

On November 14, 1899, Rev. R. W. Newlands, pastor of the Congregational church, and Hon. John A. Atwood began digging for the remains of the soldiers and continued the work until they were found. The Battleground Memorial Association of Stillman Valley was later incorporated. Citizens subscribed \$1,000 and the lots were purchased and deeded to the association. The Forty-second General Assembly was asked to appropriate \$5,000 for a monument, and May 11, 1901, a bill for this purpose was signed by Governor Yates. A granite shaft 50 feet high was dedicated June 11, 1902, when Lawrence Y. Sherman, now United States Senator from Illinois, delivered the principal address.

The news of the Indian war spread rapidly throughout the East, and the administration sent nine companies to the scene, under command of General Scott. He arrived at Fort

Dearborn in Chicago, July 8. The cholera had broken out among his men on the way, and he was thus detained at the fort. As soon as the cholera had subsided General Scott removed his quarters from Fort Dearborn to the banks of Desplaines River. From there he sent the main body, under command of Colonel Cummings, to the site of Beloit, then a deserted Winnebago village. At that point orders came from the general in chief command for the army to march down Rock River to Fort Armstrong on Rock Island, at which place General Scott had arrived by a hasty march across the country by way of Naperville.

END OF WAR.

The further details of this war will be briefly noted. Black Hawk retreated up Rock River into Wisconsin, and was hotly pursued. The army trail, made in following Black Hawk's band to the head-waters of the Rock, passed through the First Ward of Rockford. Stephen Mack was the guide. This trail met the river bank above the city at the dry run which is now bridged on North Second street, near the residence of Mrs. Carolyn Hamilton. In July Black Hawk determined to try to save himself by crossing the Mississippi River. He was overtaken at Blue Mounds, on Wisconsin River, by General Henry's division. A battle ensued on the 21st, in which the Sac chief lost fifty warriors while crossing the river. Black Hawk continued his retreat after the battle until he was again overtaken August 2, near the mouth of the Bad Axe River, in Wisconsin. In the battle which followed nearly the entire remnant of Black Hawk's army was killed or drowned in attempting to cross the river. Black Hawk fled to Prairie La Cross, a Winnebago village, where he surrendered to Chaetar and One-eyed Decora, two Winnebago chiefs, who delivered him to General Street, the Indian agent at Prairie du Chien, August 27. The campaign had lasted seventy-nine days.

The speech of Black Hawk, addressed to General Street, at Prairie du Chien, after his defeat at the battle of Bad Axe, is a splendid specimen of Indian eloquence, and reveals a patriotism unsurpassed by the "noblest Roman." Eloquence is born of strong passion, and is never a trick of rhetoric nor a mere intellectual feat. The following, from this humil-

iated savage, is worthy of Burke or Webster:

"You have taken me prisoner with all my warriors. . . . I fought hard. But your guns were well aimed. The bullets flew like birds in the air, and whizzed by our ears like the wind through the trees in the winter. My warriors fell around me; it began to look dismal. I saw my evil day at hand. The sun rose dim on us in the morning, and at night it sunk in a dark cloud, and looked like a ball of fire. That was the last sun that shone on Black Hawk. His heart is dead and no longer beats quick in his bosom. He is now a prisoner to the white men; they will do with him as they wish. But he can stand torture, and is not afraid of death. He is no coward. Black Hawk is an Indian. . . . Farewell, my nation! Black Hawk tried to save you, and avenge your wrongs. He drank the blood of some of the whites. He has been taken prisoner, and his plans are stopped. He can do no more. He is near his end. His sun is setting, and he will rise no more. Farewell to Black Hawk!"

On September 10, 1832, the Indian prisoners were taken to Jefferson Barracks, below St. Louis. From there Black Hawk was sent to Washington, where he was presented to President Andrew Jackson, and on April 26, 1833, he was sent to Fortress Monroe, where he remained until the 4th of June, when he was permitted to return to his people. Upon his return he was restored to his tribe as a chief subordinate to Keokuk. Black Hawk died October 3, 1838, at the age of seventy-one years. He was dressed for burial in a uniform presented to him when in Washington by the president. The body was placed in the middle of the grave, in a sitting posture, on a seat constructed for this purpose. On his left side, the cane given him by Henry Clay was placed upright, with his right hand resting upon it. Many of the old warrior's trophies were placed in the grave.

Black Hawk was free from many of the vices that others of his race contracted from their association with the white people. He never used intoxicants to excess. As a warrior he knew no fear, and on the field of battle his feats of personal prowess stamped him as the "bravest of the brave." In social relations he was affable and true. His devotion to his wife, with whom he lived more than forty years, was strong and manly. In the home he was an affectionate husband and father.

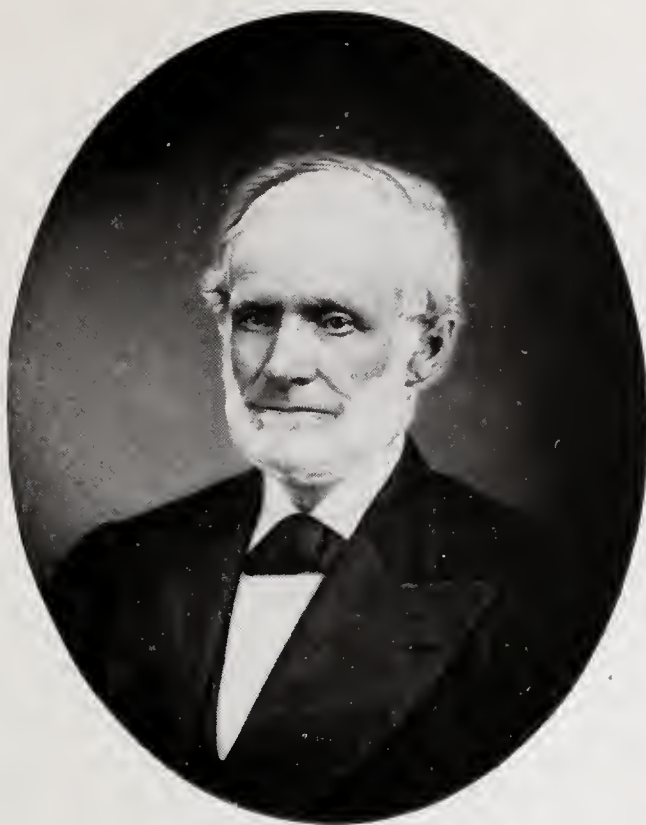
LINCOLN'S COMMENT ON THE WAR.

The Black Hawk war made no military reputations; but Zachary Taylor and Abraham Lincoln bore an humble part. Mr. Lincoln never alluded to it as anything more than an interesting episode in his life. In satirizing the military pretensions of another, he said: "Do you know, Mr. Speaker, I too am a military hero? . . . I fought, bled and came away. If he saw any live fighting Indians, it was more than I did; but I had a good many bloody struggles with the mosquitoes."

CHAPTER IV.

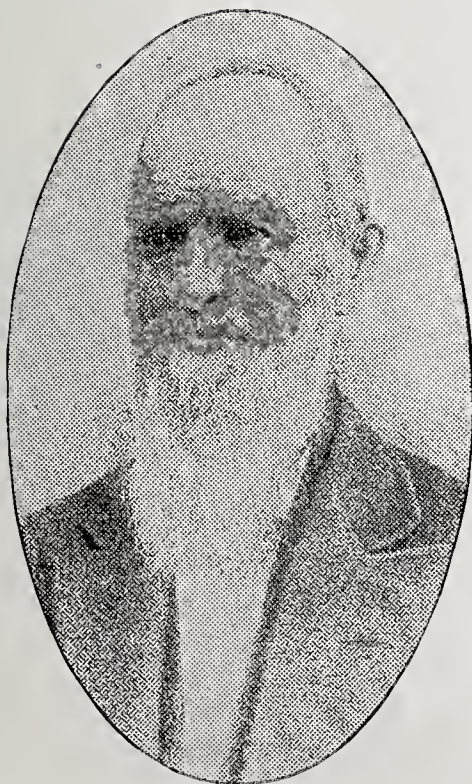
EARLY SETTLERS.

STEPHEN MACK—FIRST PERMANENT SETTLER—NATIVE OF VERMONT—CAME TO WINNEBAGO ABOUT 1829—MARRIED AN INDIAN—RETIRED TO WEBBER'S ISLAND DURING BLACK HAWK WAR—FOUNDER OF MACKTOWN—BUSINESS ENTERPRISES—POLITICAL HONORS—LEGALIZES HIS INDIAN CHILDREN—FIRST WIFE DIES IN 1847—SECOND MARRIAGE IN 1848—DEATH OF MACK—OTHER PIONEERS—GERMANICUS KENT—THATCHER BLAKE—EMIGRATION STIMULATED—EXPLORING ROCK RIVER VALLEY—PRACTICAL MEN—CLAIMS LOCATED—PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS—PANIC OF 1837—CLOSING YEARS OF THESE MEN OF ENTERPRISE—DANIEL SHAW HAIGHT—FIRST WHITE WOMEN IN COUNTY—FIRST PUBLIC RELIGIOUS SERVICE—ADDITIONAL EARLY SETTLERS—FIRST RESIDENT PHYSICIAN—SETTLERS IN OTHER TOWNSHIPS IN 1835—PIONEERS OF 1836—EMIGRATION IN 1837—NEW ENGLAND TYPE PREDOMINANT—ENGLISH STOCK FOUNDERS OF CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS—THEIR AIMS AND CHARACTER—LATER PIONEERS OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY—PROMINENT EARLY PHYSICIANS—DR. JOSIAH C. GOODHUE—DR. ALDEN THOMAS—DR. A. M. CATLIN—DR. GEORGE HASKELL—EARLY BUILDING ACTIVITIES—HARVEY H. SILSBY AN EARLY CONTRACTOR—NOTED MEN IN WINNEBAGO HISTORY—JAMES MADISON WIGHT—JASON MARSH—FRANCIS BURNAP—DUNCAN FERGUSON—THOMAS D. ROBERT-

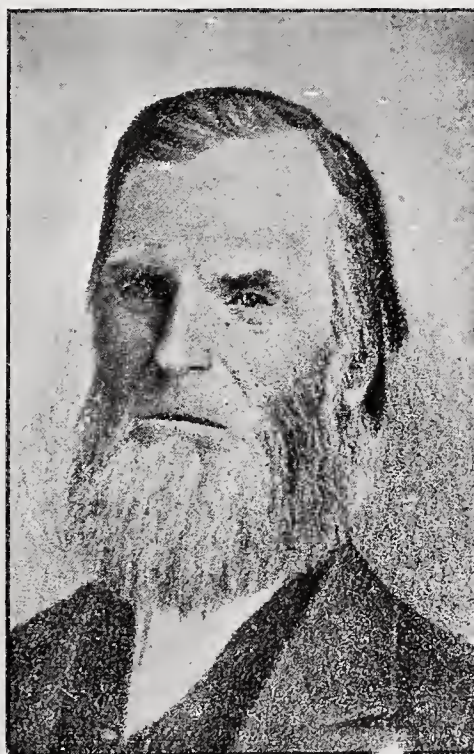


THATCHER BLAKE

Germanicus Kent and Thatcher Blake Were the First Settlers of Rockford. They came from Galena in the Summer of 1834.



WAIT TALCOTT
Early Manufacturer



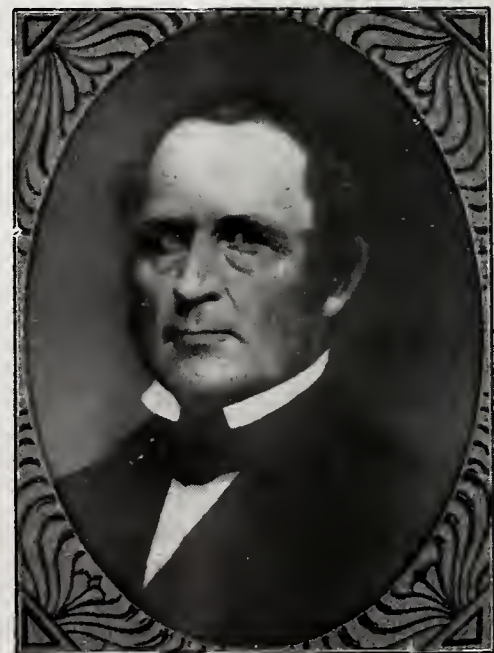
DR. GEORGE HASKELL
Pioneer Physician



COL. JASON MARSH
Lawyer and Colonel Seventy-fourth
Illinois Volunteer Infantry



JAMES M. WIGHT
Pioneer Lawyer



WILLARD WHEELER
First Mayor of Rockford

SON—A PIONEER CHURCH SERVICE—THE BAKERS—MRS. PENFIELD—OTHER NEW ENGLAND EARLY SETTLERS—A COBBLESTONE HOUSE AN OLD LAND-MARK AT ROCKFORD—THE HERRICKS—THE SPAFFORDS—MORE FAMILIAR NAMES—LAOMI PEAKE AN EARLY CAPITALIST—FIRST PUBLIC HALL IN ROCKFORD—THE BARNUMS—HORACE MILLER—OTHER PIONEERS—SETTLERS IN THE FORTIES—ABLE LAWYERS—PEOPLE OF STERLING TYPE—MARSHALL H. REGAN—THE CLARKS—FIVE BROTHERS PHYSICIANS OF NOTE—FIRST BOOK STORE AT ROCKFORD—JUDGE WILLIAM BROWN—HIRAM H. WALDO—OTHER NOTABLE MEN—EARLY BANKERS—THE FIRM OF THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL—JOHN EDWARDS—ARGONAUTS FROM ROCKFORD TO CALIFORNIA IN 1849-50.

STEPHEN MACK.

Stephen Mack was the first white man who made a permanent settlement in Winnebago County. The exact date is unknown, but it was probably about 1829. It is also quite certain that he was the first settler in the Rock River valley. The student of local history is referred to the late Edson I. Carr, who has given in his "History of Rockton" the best information concerning this adventurer; and the author is indebted to Mr. Carr's work for many of the facts given in this chapter.

Mack was born at Poultney, Vermont. He was for a time a student at Dartmouth College, but it does not appear that he was ever graduated. His love of adventure was shown in early life. Soon after the war of 1812 he came to Detroit with his father, who held a position under the government. The younger Mack subsequently joined a government expedition around the lakes from Detroit to Green Bay. While there Mack learned from traders that the Rock River country presented favorable opportunity for a trading post. He accordingly made the journey with an Indian pony, and arrived at a point near the site of Janesville; thence to Turtle Village, near what is now Beloit. While there he learned of an Indian camp to the south, at Bird's Grove, about a mile and a half from the mouth of Pecatonica River, and he started for that point. He lost the trail and descended the Rock until he came to a Pottawatomie village at Grand Detour, where he remained several years. Mack established trade with the Indians, and took their

furs in exchange for merchandise. His journeys to and from Chicago were made by Indian ponies. During this time Mack married Ho-no-ne-gah, a daughter of the Pottawatomie chief. This alliance, however, did not establish a perpetual bond of friendship between Mack and the tribe. He incurred the enmity of the red men because he refused to sell them whisky and firearms. While on a trip to Chicago a plan was laid to murder him and take his goods. His faithful Indian wife discovered the plot. She mounted a pony, met him a considerable distance from the camp and gave him warning. Together they started for the camp of the Winnebagoes at Bird's Grove. There they were made welcome and given protection, and there they made their home. Ho-no-ne-gah, though born of a savage race, exhibited traits of a more refined womanhood. She was a true wife, and thoroughly devoted to her home and children. Her husband's tribute of devotion was sincere. She was modest and disliked to appear conspicuous. She knew the remedies which the Great Spirit had spread before her in nature, and with these she visited the sick. The needy were also blessed by her gracious ministry. Ho-no-ne-gah always wore the habit of her race. Only once was she known to don the dress of her white sisters. But she felt so ill at ease that she soon cast it aside, and ever afterward appeared in the attire of her tribe.

Upon the outbreak of the Black Hawk war, Mack was living at peace with his Winnebago friends. Black Hawk visited this tribe in his flight up Rock River, and attempted to induce the warriors to accompany him to Wisconsin. Mack opposed this alliance, and thereby incurred the displeasure of the Sac chief. The Winnebagoes remained at their old camp, and Black Hawk proceeded without them. But the feeling was so strong against Mack during this visit of Black Hawk that the chief of the Winnebagoes advised him to leave the camp for personal safety. There is a story that he sought seclusion on what is now called Webber's Island, where he was supplied with food by his wife until the storm had passed. It is not certain whether this is history or romance.

FOUNDER OF MACKTOWN.

Mack foresaw that a speedy settlement of the Rock River valley would follow the Black

Hawk war. The Pecatonica was then considered a navigable stream for 100 miles from its mouth, and the Rock for 150 miles into Wisconsin Territory. Mack believed that the bluff at the mouth of Pecatonica River was an available site for a town. Accordingly in the autumn of 1835 he took possession of this tract, upon which he resided until his death. He planted a village, which was called Macktown. The place still retains this name, although the promising settlement of sixty years ago, save the old substantial farm house, has disappeared. Mack had a bold policy of expansion, and valued a corner lot near his store at one thousand dollars. When he was told that his land was too uneven for a town, he replied that "it is far better than Milwaukee."

Mack engaged in various business enterprises. He kept a general store and did a successful business. He brought his goods from Chicago on Indian ponies, before the advent of wagons. In 1838 he established a ferry across Rock River, which was managed for a time by William Hulin. It was then purchased by Jesse Blinn, who carried on the business under a license issued by the county commissioners' court. About 1842 Mack built, mainly at his own expense, a bridge in the place of the ferry, the first bridge across Rock River in the state. This structure was carried away by a freshet June 1, 1851. Another bridge, which had been built previous to the freshet one mile farther down the river, changed the course of travel and Macktown fell into decline.

Political honors came to Stephen Mack. He was elected associate justice in 1849, and held the office until his death. He was appointed the first township treasurer of the school fund of Rockton. Upon the adoption of township organization in 1850, he was a candidate for supervisor, but was defeated by a few votes by Sylvester Talcott.

LEGALIZES HIS INDIAN CHILDREN.

Mack had taken Ho-no-ne-gah to be his wife under the Indian form of marriage. In order to fully protect the title of his children to his estate, he and his wife were re-married September 14, 1840, by William Hulin, a justice of the peace. This action, however, was probably unnecessary. It is a principle in international

law that a marriage is recognized as legal whenever it is held to be such in the country in which it was solemnized. This principle would be applied to the marriage rite among Indians and similar races. On the 4th of April, 1840, Mack executed his will. The full text of this instrument is given in Mr. Carr's "History of Rockton." By this will he divided his property equally among his wife and eight children. Ho-no-ne-gah died in 1847. She was the mother of eleven children, two of whom died in infancy. Louisa and Mary were students at Rockford seminary for a time, but their free Indian nature could not long endure such restraint. Louisa and her husband, according to latest information, were residing in Chippewa County, Wisconsin. Caroline, the youngest, was a babe when her mother died.

In 1848 Mack married Mrs. Daniels, of Harrison. The ceremony was performed at Beloit. His subsequent domestic life was not as happy as it had been with Ho-no-ne-gah. February 14, 1849, Mack executed a codocil to his will. Since the date of the former instrument changes had occurred in his family. Three children had been born, one child and Ho-no-ne-gah had died, and he had remarried. The codicil equally divided his estate among his wife and children.

Stephen Mack died very suddenly April 10, 1850. At the time of his death he owned land in several adjoining sections, which aggregated about one thousand acres. He was buried on his farm beside his Indian wife. Thirty years later, May 19, 1880, their remains were removed and buried in the Phillips cemetery, near Harrison. Many reasons have been given why this educated gentleman of New England should have sought a life on the frontier, and married a woman of a savage race. It is said death claimed the idol of his first love. Others believe an insidious appetite drove him to this western wilderness. It may have been a keen foresight by which he caught a glimpse of the marvelous development of the west. Whatever the motive, he kept his secret until he passed beyond the judgment of men. His career was strange and romantic. He is remembered as dignified in bearing, genial and courteous, a kind husband and father, a true friend, and an honest man.

OTHER PIONEERS.

In the summer of 1833 John Phelps, in company with a Frenchman, started down Pecatonica River from Mineral Point, Wisconsin, in a canoe, on a voyage of discovery. These men descended the Rock, and made a brief stop at the mouth of the creek where Germanicus Kent and Thatcher Blake located claims a year later. Mr. Phelps and his companion were pleased with the site, and would have located there had it not been for the scarcity of timber. For this reason they continued their journey down the river, and selected a site now occupied by the town of Oregon, in Ogle County.

Neither Mack nor Phelps ever lived within the limits of Rockford; but a history of the city would scarcely be complete without a record of the facts given in this chapter.

Joseph Kemp was in this section from 1830 to 1840, and again from 1842 to 1844. He has not been in this county since the latter date. Mr. Kemp first came from a point below Rock Island on the Mississippi, then to Rockford by way of Rock River. He did not, however, permanently reside in what is now the city of Rockford. In July, 1899, he was living, at Michigan City, in his eighty-ninth year, and was seen by the late Charles L. Williams.

EMIGRATION STIMULATED.

It was stated that the Black Hawk war was the immediate occasion of the settlement of the Rock River valley. There were, however, remote and more general causes. The peace following the great Napoleonic conflict in Europe had stimulated emigration to this country. President Monroe's administration had passed into history as the "era of good feeling." The Erie Canal and the construction of railroads, steamboats and stage lines had created a period of expansion. The great undeveloped Northwest, east of the Mississippi River, was then quite well known, and presented a splendid opportunity for capital and enterprise. Illinois occupied a central position. The Illinois and Michigan Canal had been chartered, and a large number of railroads had been subsidized by the state. A tide of inflated prosperity was swiftly carrying every department of industry and speculation toward the financial breakers of 1837. Under these conditions the actual history of Rockford began.

Germanicus Kent was born of English ancestry in Suffield, Connecticut, May 31, 1790, 126 years ago. In early manhood he went from his native state to New York. In 1819 he went from there to the South with testimonials of first-class business ability. He first stopped for a short time in Blacksburg, Virginia. About 1822 Mr. Kent went to Huntsville, Alabama, where he was for some years engaged in the dry goods business in partnership with Preston Yeatman. On June 7, 1827, Mr. Kent married Miss Arabella Amiss, who was born in Culpepper, Virginia, April 9, 1808. The ceremony was performed at Blacksburg. Mr. Kent was subsequently a partner in the firm of Patton, Donegan & Co., at the Bell Cotton factory on Flint River, about nine miles from Huntsville. The firm owned a dry goods store at Huntsville at the same time, but Mr. Kent was not personally interested in it. It has been said Mr. Kent was an abolitionist, but this statement is not fully established. At one time he owned several slaves, and brought one of them to this state.

Mr. Kent went from Alabama to Galena, Illinois, where his brother, the Rev. Aratus Kent, a Presbyterian clergyman, was stationed as a home missionary. This brother was deeply interested in higher education, and his name will re-appear in this book. At the time Aratus Kent left Huntsville he possessed an amount of ready money that was considered a competence for those days.

Thatcher Blake was born at Turner, Oxford County, Maine, March 16, 1809. He resided in his native state until 1834, when he started for the West by way of Boston, Albany, Buffalo, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Louisville and St. Louis. At St. Louis he conversed with the soldiers who had been in the Black Hawk war, who gave interesting descriptions of the Rock River country and Galena. The latter was then being rapidly populated by reason of its extensive lead mines. Mr. Blake therefore visited Galena. There he became acquainted with Germanicus Kent. This acquaintance ripened into friendship, and they arranged to explore the Rock River valley.

EXPLORING ROCK RIVER VALLEY.

In June, 1834, these gentlemen started from Galena, in a democrat wagon, on their tour of

exploration. They went north into Wisconsin Territory to the Pecatonica River, about four miles from what was then known as Hamilton's Diggings, a small mining village operated by a son of Alexander Hamilton. A man named Ransom had settled on the Pecatonica at this point, of whom they procured a canoe. Their purpose was to explore the Pecatonica and Rock rivers with a view of settlement if the country should meet their expectations. Their first landing was at a point now included in the city of Freeport. It was then an Indian camp, known as Winneshiek's Village. Winneshiek was the name of a chief of a band of Indians which numbered from 200 to 300. Mr. Kent went ashore and explored the country some distance from the river. The Indians gathered about Mr. Blake in such numbers that he became alarmed, and was compelled to row from the shore and remain in the middle of the stream, as a precaution against robbery of their moderate supply of provisions. From Winneshiek's Village they continued their journey and made frequent landings to explore the country. They ascended the Pecatonica to its junction with Rock River, and came down the latter until they arrived at the mouth of the small tributary to which the name of Kent's Creek was subsequently given. They selected a site on the west side of the river. Rock River was then considered navigable and a waterway to the north and south. The site of Rockford, on a navigable stream, midway between Chicago and Galena, was at once recognized as possessing superior advantages. Kent and Blake then proceeded down the stream to Dixon's Ferry, which received its name from John Dixon, the first white settler of Lee County, who located at that point in the spring of 1830. There they sold their canoe and returned overland to Galena, by the road leading from Peoria which crossed Rock River at that point. This trip covered nine days.

Soon after their return to Galena they prepared for a second journey. They procured supplies, and with a heavily laden lumber wagon and a single span of horses, they started overland for their new El Dorado. There were no roads, nor even Indian trails. Their route was the Galena and Dixon line of travel as far as Chambers' Grove. From this point they took a northeasterly course through an unknown country. Their journey covered four days. On

the evening of Sunday, August 24, 1834, these pioneers arrived at their destination. The party consisted of Germanicus Kent, Thatcher Blake, a Mr. Evans, and another man whose name is unknown.

PRACTICAL MEN.

The settlement of Rockford was not a romantic adventure. These men wore no badges of eminence. They were not flattering courtiers of a foreign prince, and possessed no commissions or patents. They did not thrust their swords into the virgin soil and solemnly take possession in the name of an alien king. They did not kiss the earth in token of devotion, nor recite to the empty air the purpose of their coming. There were no wintry skies, no breaking waves, nor stern and rock-bound coast. They were not exiles from the land of their birth, nor did they seek the treasures of the mine. Neither did they come in quest of a faith's pure shrine nor freedom to worship God. Kent came to build a sawmill, and Blake was a tiller of the soil. The significance of their coming was in the fact that they came to stay. Thus did Germanicus Kent and Thatcher Blake make the first actual and permanent settlement in what is now the city of Rockford. In this quiet, prosy way did these sturdy pioneers illustrate Goethe's observation that the ideal can only come from the development of the real. Mr. Kent was the ruling spirit in this enterprise. He was then in the prime of life, and had already proven himself to be a thoroughgoing man of affairs. With Dante he could say: "In the midway of this our mortal life I found me in a gloomy wood." Mr. Kent was the director and provider of those who were to begin the work of transformation from the "gloomy wood" to the Forest City. Those who came with him were drawing pay, and were without expense. It was otherwise with Mr. Kent. Every day brought its expense, and no income. He had sold his southern home, and his family at Galena was patiently awaiting developments. He could not retrace his steps. He could only look to the future, and trust for the best. Mr. Kent kept a journal, and under date of August 18, 1834, he writes: "Hired Mr. Blake at eighteen dollars per month to live with me on Rock River, to take charge of my business, and



Members of the Rockford Society of
EARLY SETTLERS.

(See names next page)

- 1.—T. Davis, E. A. Herrick, D. H. Ferguson, G. S. Haskell, L. Mouthrop, W. H. Fitch, W. C. Blinn, J. R. Herring, W. J. Cole, W. A. Talcott.
- 2.—
- 3.—
- 4.—H. R. Enoch, Robert Simpson, Austin Colton, John Platt, Jesse Blinn, J. P. Sayer, H. H. Silsby, H. Maynard, R. S. Stiles, Homer Denton.
- 5.—R. Montague, R. Barrett, Thatcher Blake, S. M. Church, E. Sumner, D. D. Alling, D. Goodhue, L. B. Fuller, M. Brown, Wm. Halley.
- 6.—T. J. Jewell, A. S. Miller, T. D. Robertson, W. Houghton, Chas. Works, E. Wyman, L. M. Taft, S. Talcott, G. A. Sanford, S. Ruggles, P. Howes.
- 7.—H. Redington, D. Fish, B. Hulin, I. Lyon, G. C. Wheeler, D. Ferguson, Jason Marsh, N. Belknap, H. O. Brown, Daniel Dow, Geo. Cochran.
- 8.—Elias Martin, Wm. Enoch, E. H. Baker, C. F. Hard, D. S. Penfield, A. C. Spafford, Wait Talcott, John Fitch, J. H. Thurston, P. P. Churchill.
- 9.—C. P. Brady, N. Wilder, Wm. Peters, B. F. Cunningham, C. I. Horsman, O. F. Lamb, A. Corey, Rev. Jno. Morrell, John Atwood.
- 10.—A. G. Spalding, W. Twogood, P. S. Doolittle, H. W. Loomis, M. H. Regan, T. B. Talcott, H. Richardson, J. R. Jewett, J. C. Waterman, G. O. Holmes.

to do all kinds of work, to remain with me from one month to twenty-four months."

CLAIMS LOCATED.

Both Kent and Blake located claims. Mr. Kent's claim comprised a tract of land which included the Tinker estate and the water-power, and extended south to Montague's Addition; on the west it included the estate now owned by the family of the late Judge Church, and extended north to half section line; the eastern line followed the bank of the river. Mr. Kent, however, only held temporary squatter's possession of this tract, and he obtained full legal title to only a small portion of it. Mr. Kent's name does not appear prominently in the real estate transactions of his time, except as the agent of others. Sections 21, 22 and 27, which include a large portion of West Rockford, were Indian "floats," to which reference was made in a preceding chapter. These sections were sold by their respective owners to Daniel Whitney, of Green Bay, Wisconsin, for \$800 each. The deeds were executed February 12, 1840. Mr. Whitney gave power of attorney to Charles S. Hempstead, of Galena. Mr. Hempstead, through Kent and Brinckerhoff as agents, sold the greater part of these sections to Isaac N. Cunningham, Abiram Morgan and Richard Montague, who became, in a sense, the proprietors of the corresponding portion of West Rockford.

Mr. Blake's claim included parts of sections 20 and 29. A claim was made in the autumn of 1834 by Mr. Kent for an English gentleman named John Wood, of Huntsville, Alabama. Mr. Wood, however, did not take possession of this claim until the following spring. The first work done by these pioneers was the erection of two log cabins. Mr. Kent's cabin was on a site directly east of Mrs. Tinker's brick house, and was removed when South Main street was opened. Mr. Blake's cabin was built in the grove on the claim which he had chosen.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

During the autumn and winter Mr. Kent made trips to Chicago and Galena. He employed a number of workmen, who had come from Galena, in various kinds of work. Among these was the construction of a dam and a

sawmill on Kent's Creek. The timber for the mill was cut from the grounds now occupied by Rockford College. In the following January, when the ice was 16 inches thick, a sudden thaw swept away the dam. To this day the observer will notice that the rock at the bottom of the creek, near the Swiss cottage, shells off, and the force of the water and ice made a deep hole in the bottom of the creek. The stream was then twice or three times its present width, and its current was proportionately stronger. Such was the fate of Rockford's first dam, which was built very near the spot where Hon. Robert H. Tinker's suspension bridge spans the stream. Early in the following spring workmen began digging the race; the construction of the second dam, just below the first, was undertaken in June, and the mill was completed in July. When the dam was completed the water arose so as to make a 12-foot head, and covered the land now occupied by the several railroads as switch-yards. The water sometimes backed nearly to State street. Several years later the citizens determined to remove this dam, because they believed it bred malaria; and this resolution was executed without due process of law.

Besides the cabins already noted, Mr. Kent began the erection of another and better log house, in the fall of 1834, which was completed the following spring. This structure consisted of an upright and a wing, and was considered an uncommonly good house for those days. Mr. Kent's family probably came from Galena in May, 1835. Mr. Blake boarded with the family for two years, and only occupied his own cabin in the grove when he found it more convenient to do so while tilling his land. The business of the settlement during the first years included a general store, a blacksmith shop, sawmill, a primitive hotel, a crude system of banking, and mail facilities of a private sort. All these were under the general proprietorship of Mr. Kent.

PANIC OF 1837.

It may be safely said that few men in trade, commerce or manufacturing survived the financial crash, and the depression which swept over the country in 1837 and later. Mr. Kent was poorly prepared for the storm. His ready capital had become exhausted, and he was now in debt for money, merchandise and property.

His goods had been sold on credit, and collections were impossible. His property was depreciated and unsalable, and embarrassment and failure were unavoidable. Mr. Kent made the best settlement of his affairs possible under the circumstances, and honestly surrendered everything. His capital which he brought with him, his buildings and improvements, his plans and preparations, and even his prospects were gone; and he saw no star of hope in the Rockford which he had founded and helped to build; no opportunities which he might retrieve. And so in 1844 he bade her a long and sad farewell and went to Virginia, where he made his home the remainder of his life. He engaged in trade in Craig, Fayette and Montgomery counties. Mrs. Kent died in Blacksburg, Virginia, May 26, 1851. Mr. Kent lived with his daughter, Mrs. Mary Irby Black, the last five years of his life, in feeble health, in Blacksburg, where he died March 1, 1862. This man will ever stand foremost in the history of Rockford, in point of time and early events. In his character and life there are elements that arrest and fix attention, and which merit grateful remembrance. Kent school, in South Rockford, Kent's Creek and Kent street are named in his honor.

Fortune was more kind to Mr. Blake. He resided on his farm until 1851, when he removed into Rockford and engaged in real estate business. For two years preceding his death Mr. Blake operated extensively in timber lands in Wisconsin. Mr. Blake died October 8, 1880. Mrs. Kittie Bean, widow of Clarence Bean, of Little Rock, Arkansas, is an adopted daughter. Evans Blake, former United States consul at Creffield, Germany, now of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is a brother, and Hon. E. B. Sumner is a nephew. Mrs. Blake died October 26, 1900.

The first settler of what is now East Rockford was Daniel Shaw Haight, who arrived April 9, 1835. Mr. Haight came to Illinois from Bolton, Warren County, New York. A year or two previous to his appearance on Rock River he had selected a claim near Geneva, Kane County. He sold this claim, and in company with two or three men came to Rockford on a tour of inspection. He selected a tract of land, which comprised a large part of what is now the heart of East Rockford. Mr. Haight went back to Geneva for his family, and in May he returned to Rockford with his wife and child; Miss Carey, who was Mrs. Haight's sis-

ter, and a hired man. Mrs. Mary Haight and her sister were the first white women to settle in the county, as it is supposed they preceded by two or three weeks the arrival of Mrs. Kent. Mrs. Haight appears to have been equal to the duties and trials of pioneer life. She had no acquaintance with books or literature; but she possessed a good mind, and was alert, shrewd, and affable to strangers. Mr. Haight was a rugged, roistering pioneer, and a shrewd man of affairs.

Upon his arrival Mr. Haight put up a tent under a large bur oak tree, which his family occupied until his cabin was completed. This dwelling, built in the summer of 1835, was the first structure on the East side. It was built on the eastern part of the lot which now forms the northeast corner of State and Madison streets. This spot was at the brow of the table-land, from which the descent was rapid toward the river. The house was built in regular pioneer style, without the use of a single nail. The main part was about 18 feet square, built of oak logs. It had a puncheon floor, two windows and a door. The cellar was simply an excavation under the centre. "Such a house," says Mr. Thurston, "may be built with an axe and an auger, and is a warm, comfortable dwelling. Haight made an addition in '36, with a space between 10 feet wide and roofed over, which had a shingle roof and floor of sawed lumber." Mr. Haight's second house was on the northeast corner of State and Madison streets. It was a frame structure, and completed in 1837 by Thomas Lake and Sidney Twogood. This house was divided and a portion removed to the northeast corner of Walnut and South Second streets, where it stood for many years. When it was razed about 1906 it was the oldest frame structure in Rockford.

The first public religious service in Rockford was held the second Sunday in June, 1835, at the house of Germanicus Kent, and was conducted by his brother, the Rev. Aratus Kent, of Galena. It has been said that on that day every soul in Rockford attended divine worship. The audience comprised Mr. and Mrs. Kent, Mr. and Mrs. Haight, Miss Carey, Thatcher Blake, Albert Sanford, Mr. VanZandt, who was Mr. Kent's millwright, a man in the employ of Mr. Haight, and two other persons whose names are unknown. Thus it will be noted that in early June, 1835, there were less than a dozen persons

in Rockford. This small number may be explained by the supposition that several workmen, who had been temporarily employed by Mr. Kent, had removed from the settlement.

ADDITIONAL EARLY SETTLERS.

It is impossible to give the name of every settler in what is now Rockford Township at the close of the first year after Mr. Kent's arrival. In the autumn of 1834 Mr. Kent solicited a number of his southern friends to settle in the rising colony. One gentleman who thus responded was James B. Martyn. He was a native of the County of Cornwall, England, and had emigrated to Huntsville, Alabama, where he had made the acquaintance of Germanicus Kent. Mr. Martyn arrived in Rockford late in the summer of 1835. He subsequently removed to Belvidere, where he engaged in the milling business. James Boswell and James Wood also came from the South about this time. Mr. Boswell settled on a claim about half a mile north of State street, on the west side of the river, immediately above Dr. Haskell's orchard. The next year Mr. Boswell traded with Mr. Spaulding for property directly opposite, on the east side of the river.

Eliphalet Gregory was born in Danbury, Connecticut, April 23, 1804. He came from New York in June, with his family. His claim extended east one-half mile from Kishwaukee street, and south from State to his brother Samuel's claim. His first log house was near Keith's Creek, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, and west of Seventh street. A part of his later grout house on Charles street was torn down about eight years ago to make room for a flat. Eliphalet Gregory died February 16, 1876. Samuel Gregory arrived in Rockford December 8th. His claim was approximately bounded by what are now Sixth and Fourteenth avenues, and Ninth street and Churchill Place. His log house was on Seventh avenue, by Keith's Creek, between Ninth and Tenth streets. Mr. Gregory spent his last years in Pekin, New York, where he died in May, 1886. His sons are: Stephen D., John Clark, Homer, and James B. There were also four daughters: Mrs. Delia A. Johnson, deceased; Mrs. Addie S. Witwer, of Chicago; Mrs. Edna J. Hulbert, deceased; and one who died in infancy. Stephen Gregory died in Rockford September 1, 1915, after a residence in the county of seventy-nine years.

Ephraim Wyman arrived in September. He was a native of Lancaster, Massachusetts. In 1824, when he was fifteen years of age, he removed to Keene, New Hampshire, and from there he came to Rockford. He followed the business of baker from 1835 until 1850. In the latter year he went to California, where he remained three years. Mr. Wyman owned and platted a tract of land in the heart of West Rockford, to which reference will be made in a subsequent chapter. A street on the West side bears his name. Mr. Wyman was county treasurer and assessor in 1844-5. In his last years he was afflicted with blindness. Mr. Wyman was a worthy gentleman, and is kindly remembered. He died in the autumn of 1893.

FIRST RESIDENT PHYSICIAN.

Levi Moulthrop, M. D., had the distinction of being the first resident physician in Winnebago County, as now organized. Dr. Whitney had probably preceded him at Belvidere, which at that time was included in Winnebago County. Dr. Moulthrop was descended from Mathew Moulthrop, who settled at Quinnipiac, now New Haven, Connecticut, April 18, 1638, and who was one of the original signers of the Plantation Covenant, ratified June 4, 1639. Dr. Moulthrop first came to this county in the autumn of 1835, and permanently settled here in the following spring. He was born near Litchfield, Connecticut, November 1, 1805. He received his early education in his native town, and completed a course of medicine and surgery at Fairfield College, in the state of New York. In the spring of his arrival in this county, he settled upon a claim of several hundred acres near Kishwaukee, now in New Milford Township, and began the practice of medicine. On June 30, 1840, Dr. Moulthrop was married to Miss Margaret, eldest daughter of Sampson George, and died after a brief illness, September 12th of the same year. Dr. Moulthrop is said to have brought the first copy of Shakespeare into the county. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, a Democrat in politics, and a communicant of the Episcopal church.

Richard Montague came July 1, 1835, from Massachusetts, and purchased a tract of land near the city. A street in South Rockford, an island in Rock River and a ward school bear

his name. Mr. Montague died July 16, 1878. His son, S. S. Montague, became an expert railroad surveyor. Adam Keith came from Indiana. He was born in Pennsylvania, in 1795. From there he went to Ohio, thence to Indiana. His name was given to Keith's Creek. Mr. Keith removed from Illinois to Wisconsin in 1846. He died at Beaver City, Nebraska, in 1883, at the age of eighty-seven years. William E. Dunbar settled in what is now South Rockford, and was a leader in the organization of the county. Mr. Dunbar served as county recorder from 1839 to 1843. He died October 16, 1847. P. P. Churchill was born in Vermont in 1804. He pre-empted a farm of 160 acres east of the city. Mr. Churchill died January 11, 1889. He is remembered for his simple ways, kind heart and upright life.

Among other settlers in Rockford Township during the year were: John Vance, John Caton, Joseph Jolly, Charles Hall, Lewis Haskins, Milton Kilburn, William Smith, Luke Joslin, Israel Morrill, D. A. Spaulding, Lova Corey, Alonson Corey, Abel Campbell, Ezra Barnum, Anson Barnum, James Taylor, William Hollenbeck, John Hollenbeck, V. Carter, Joseph F. Sanford, Jonathan Corey, Daniel Beers, Mason Tuttle, and Mr. Noble. The following were also employed by Mr. Kent during the year: Squire Garner, Gaylor, Perry, Norton, Phineas Carey, Jefferson Garner, Nathan Bond, Charles J. Fox, James Broadie and wife. All these were not within the present city limits, but they were residents in the vicinity. They made the hamlet their place of trade, and assisted in its growth.

The foregoing list, however, did not comprise the total population of the county. Settlements had been made in nearly all the townships. In June, 1860, Judge Church delivered an historical address before the early settlers. At that time Judge Church gave the following list of settlers in what are now the different townships, in September of 1835: New Milford: Samuel Brown, William R. Wheeler, Richard Hogaboom, Phineas M. Johnson, John Adams, John B. Long, Mr. Paddleford, James Campbell; Guilford: Henry Enoch, William E. Enoch, J. A. Pike, Abraham I. Enoch, John Kelsoe, Mr. Rexford, Colonel James Sayre, Abel C. Gleason, John Brink, William G. Blair; Butler, now Cherry Valley: Joseph P. Griggs; Harlem: William Mead, Chauncey Mead, Zemri Butler; Roscoe: Robert J. Cross, Robert Logan, Elijah H.

Brown, William Brayton; Rockton: Thomas B. Talcott, William Talcott, Henry Talcott, John F. Thayre, Isaac Adams, Pearly P. Burnham, Darius Adams, David A. Blake, Ellison Blake, John Kilgore, John Lovesse; Owen: James B. Lee, Richard M. Walker; Burritt: Isaac Hance, John McIntosh, A. M. Sherman, John Manchester and family, Elias Trask, Alva Trask; Lysander, now Pecatonica: Ephraim Sumner, William Sumner, Mrs. Dolly Guilford, Elijah Guilford, Thomas Hance; Elida, now Winnebago: David A. Holt; Howard, now Durand: Harvey Lowe, Nelson Salisbury, who made claims in 1835, but did not occupy them until the spring of 1836.

These, with their families, property, houses, and other improvements, made that first short period determine all the future. They possessed and enjoyed the land. Others were following close behind. The future seemed promising, and they had only to prepare for it. Considerable ground was broken for cultivation; but the newly broken soil was of little use until its turf had rotted and mellowed. There was thus probably little raised that year in crops, except possibly sod corn, potatoes, vines and garden vegetables. Winter wheat, however, was sown for the following spring.

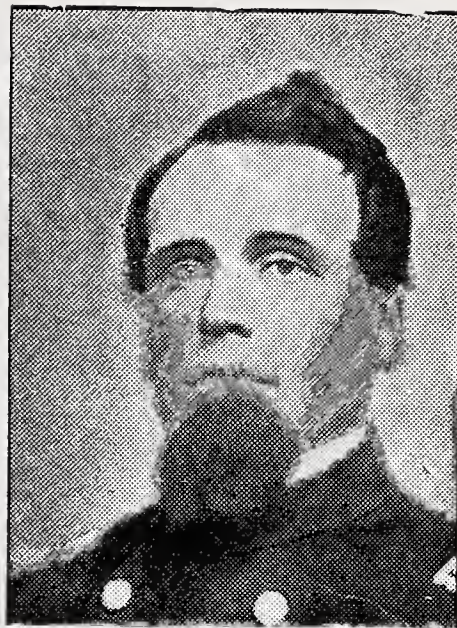
PIONEERS OF 1836.

The tide of emigration, which may be said to have begun in 1835, continued for several years. When the Rockford Society of Early Settlers was organized, January 10, 1870, its constitution provided that male residents of the county who settled therein previous to 1840 were eligible to membership. In this and the preceding chapter is given a partial list of those who came previous to and including 1836. Succeeding these will be published an incomplete roster of settlers of 1837-39, inclusive. According to the Old Settlers' standard of eligibility to membership, these names belong to the historic roll of honor.

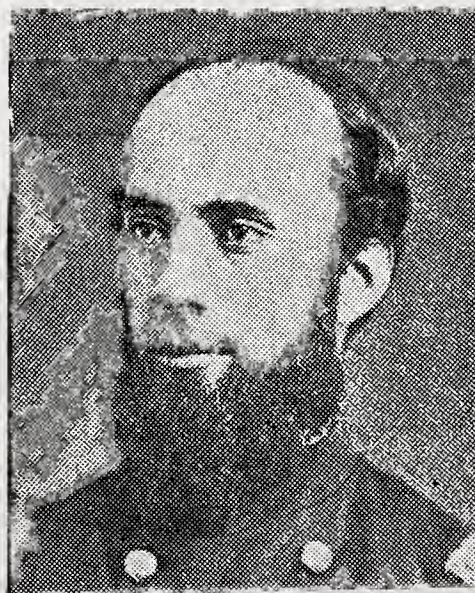
One of the first emigrants of this year came from the old world. Thomas Lake was a native of Blackford, in the Parish of Selworthy, County of Somerset, England. He sailed from Bristol in 1832, and arrived in New York after a voyage of seven weeks and three days, just as the cholera was beginning its westward march with such alarming fatality. Mr. Lake's remi-



W. W. BURSON
Inventor Burson Knitting Machine



COL. E. F. W. ELLIS
Lieutenant Colonel, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry



COL. G. L. NEVIUS
After Whom Nevius Post Was Named



JOHN NELSON
Inventor of Knitting Machine



SELDEN M. CHURCH
Pioneer and County Judge



CHARLES WILLIAMS
War Mayor of Rockford

niscences of the time between his arrival in New York and his settlement in Rockford four years later, are a vivid picture of the hardships of pioneer life. Soon after his arrival in Chicago in October, 1835, he met an old acquaintance, Sidney Twogood, from Cleveland. Mr. Lake also saw Dr. J. C. Goodhue, whom he had called to see Mrs. Lake, who was ill. The Doctor advised Mr. Lake to settle in Rockford. He and his friend Twogood accepted this advice and arrived in Rockford, and for a time they followed the carpenter's trade. Mr. Lake also took up a claim, which was subsequently known as the Willis Smith farm, and later owned by P. Byron Thomas. Mr. Lake died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Jane Lake, in Guilford, in the autumn of 1886.

Herman B. Potter was a native of Connecticut. He reached Rockford in October. Mr. Potter purchased a farm about two miles south of State street on the Kishwaukee road. Later he came to the city and built a house where the First Congregational church now stands. This home was purchased by Mrs. Chamberlain. Mr. Potter was a prominent citizen in the early history of the county, and was at one time a member of the county commissioners' court. In 1850 Mr. Potter visited California. In 1853 he removed his family to Iowa, where he resided until his removal to Galesburg, Illinois. Mr. Potter died at Galesburg, March 16, 1880, at the age of seventy-five years.

Selden M. Church was a son of New England. He was born in East Haddam, Connecticut, March 4, 1804. His father subsequently removed to Livingston County, in western New York. The son came to Chicago in 1835 with a team; thence he went to Geneva, in Kane County, where he remained until he settled in Rockford in the autumn of the following year. During his early residence in the township, when the Winnebago Indians made occasional visits to their former hunting-ground, Judge Church frequently visited their camp, and obtained such knowledge of their language as enabled him to intelligently carry on conversation with them. From an early date until the time of his death, Judge Church was a notable figure in the official and business life of the community. He filled the offices of postmaster, county clerk and county judge. The last position he held eight years. In 1847 he was a delegate from this county to the constitutional convention. Judge Church

was a member of the General Assembly in 1862; a member of the state board of charities in 1868; and was one of the commissioners chosen by the government to locate a bridge at Rock Island. Judge Church died June 21, 1892. He builded wisely for the educational and moral welfare of Rockford. Mrs. Church and daughters, Mrs. Katharine Keeler and Miss Mary Preston, resided on the family estate on South Avon street for many years. The title to this property has not changed in seventy years. Mrs. Church died February 9, 1908, at nearly ninety-eight years of age.

Abiram and Mary Morgan left their home in Massachusetts in September on a visit to this western country. They were charmed with the Rock River valley, and determined to settle here. They purchased a quarter section of Nathaniel Loomis, and erected a small log house on almost the exact site of the spacious old Horsman mansion. Mr. Morgan also purchased section 22, which was originally an Indian "float." Mr. Morgan possessed a competence, which became the basis of a large estate for his family. His religious sympathies were with the Baptist church. As soon as Mr. and Mrs. Morgan had established their home, they desired that it should be shared by their only daughter and her husband. This daughter, previous to the departure of her parents from Massachusetts, was a young school girl attending Charleston seminary, where she formed an acquaintance which led to her romantic marriage. Charles I. Horsman was then a young man in business in Boston. It was an instance of mutual love at first sight, and they were married February 10, 1834, when the bride was nineteen years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Horsman took their departure from the east soon after the arrival of her parents in Rockford. They came by way of Pittsburg, thence by the Ohio and the Mississippi rivers to St. Louis, thence overland to Rockford. Mrs. Horsman has given a vivid picture of their reception at the parental home. As the shades of night were falling, on the second day of December, they reached Rockford, on the east side of the river. They were cold, hungry, weary and disheartened. The river was full of floating ice, so that the ferry was not available; but a man agreed to row them across in a small boat, and they eagerly assented. Then they walked up from the river arm in arm, through the stately oaks, until they

came to the home where the young wife's parents were waiting to receive them. In referring to that incident in later years, Mrs. Horsman said that as the door was thrown open to welcome the daughter and her husband, when the flood of light threw out its rays into the night, and the aroma of hot coffee greeted their keen senses, it seemed as if the gates of Paradise had been opened to them. On this very site Mrs. Horsman resided until her death in 1889. Mr. Horsman died March 2, 1875.

Sampson George, an English gentleman, came to this county in September. In his youth Mr. George had been educated in the profession of the law, in the office of his father; but he had a decided preference for agricultural pursuits. Mr. George purchased a claim of 880 acres of land, held by Joshua Fawcett. Five weeks after his arrival Mr. George was taken ill and died October 31st, leaving a widow and five children. He was buried on his farm southeast of the village. Later the remains were removed to the West side cemetery.

Charles Henry Richings, M. D., was the second resident physician. He followed very closely Dr. Moulthrop. Dr. Richings was born in England, February 26, 1815. He studied medicine in Belgium and was graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1849. He settled in Rockford July 18. The practice of his profession and his investments returned him a comfortable fortune. Dr. Richings was a communicant of the Episcopal church. His death occurred August 13, 1884. His homestead was on West State street. His son, Dr. Henry Richings, is a well known practitioner.

Bethuel Houghton came from New Hampshire, in October. He engaged in the bakery business, and at one time he was associated in this way with Ephraim Wyman. Mr. Houghton left reminiscences in manuscript, which have been of service in the preparation of this volume.

Hiram R. Enoch was a native of Warren County, Ohio. From there he removed with his parents to Will County, Illinois, and thence he came to Guilford Township. Probably no citizen of Rockford possessed a larger fund of local history than did Mr. Enoch, and he rendered valuable assistance in the preparation of historical articles. Mr. Enoch was county treasurer eight years. His best known work was as editor and proprietor of the Rockford Journal. After his removal from Rockford Mr.

Enoch was in the employ of the government, in the pension bureau. His death occurred at Washington, D. C., June 8, 1890.

Isaac Newton Cunningham was the first of four brothers to settle in this county. He was the second sheriff of Winnebago County, and held this office four years. He died in Rockford December 24, 1865. His name will frequently appear in later chapters. Jacob and Mary Possou came from Schoharie County, New York. In 1837 Mr. Posson purchased land four miles east of Rockford, upon which he lived five years. In 1842 he bought property on the northeast corner of Second and Market streets. While building a cooper shop on this site he received injuries from which he died November 1, 1842. His son, H. A. Possou, resided in the county seventy-four years, and probably lived in Rockford Township longer than any other resident except Mrs. Thatcher Blake. Mr. Possou was wounded at the battle of Shiloh, April 6, 1862, and his arm was amputated the following week. He was in the local mail service four years from 1890, under Postmaster Lawler. Mr. Posson died November 2, 1912.

David S. Shumway came in the spring, and settled on a farm in New Milford. He was a native of Vermont. The family was known as Green Mountain Yankees, and was of Huguenot descent. One son, R. G. Shumway, was born in Vermont; R. B. Shumway was a native of Ohio; three sons, Alvaro, Roland H., and Monroe, were born on the old farm in New Milford; also three daughters, who died young during the sickly seasons of early days. Roland H. Shumway has acquired a national reputation as a seedsman, and has amassed a large fortune. Nathaniel Loomis and his son, H. W. Loomis, came from New Jersey. Other settlers in the county were: Charles Works, Alonzo Corey, Charles P. Brady, Spooner Ruggles, Henry P. Redington, Jonathan Wilson, A. G. Spaulding, Scott Robb, Numan Campbell, John Peffers, Herman Campbell, Homer Denton, John Robb, Edward Smith, Joseph Ritchie, Herman Hoit, Martiu W. Borst, Philip Culver, Thomas Williams, Joseph Vance, Austin Andrews, Edmund Whittlesey, Joseph Miner, Albert Fancher, Eli Burbank, Mr. Barnaby, and Miss Danforth, a sister of Mrs. Israel Morrill, who became the wife of D. A. Spaulding, the first government surveyor of northern Illinois. John Greenlee and John Armour, from Campbelltown,

Argylshire, Scotland, settled in the spring of this year at Harlem, and formed the nucleus from which has grown the large and flourishing colony known as the Scotch Settlement.

EMIGRATION IN 1837.

The emigration of 1837 was equal to that of the preceding year. John C. Kemble was the first lawyer who practiced in this county. Mr. Kemble and Dr. Goodrich had offices on South Madison street, Rockford, directly below Potter & Preston's store. Mr. Kemble's log house was built near the northwest corner of First and Walnut streets. Mr. Kemble was a gentleman of ability, and had been a member of the General Assembly of New York from Rensselaer County. Mrs. Kemble was a member of one of the old Dutch families in New York. Her maiden name was Potts, and she met and married Mr. Kemble in Chicago. According to the custom of the day, a colored servant was assigned the duty of ministering to her comfort. Her servant, Isaac Wilson, familiarly known as "Black Ike," came to Rockford with Mrs. Kemble in the latter part of 1837. It has been said that he was a slave at this time; but such was not the fact. When Isaac was a boy slavery was abolished in New York by an act of gradual emancipation, and he became free at a certain age. He had become so attached to the family in the East that he voluntarily followed Miss Potts to Chicago, thence to Rockford, where he resumed his duties as a servant. These statements are made on the authority of the late Harvey H. Silsby, who boarded with the Kemble family in the spring of 1839. About this time ex-Governor Marcy and wife of New York were guests at the Kemble home. Mr. Marcy had been governor three consecutive terms, and had attracted attention as a member of the United States senate by his reply to Henry Clay's assault on Van Buren, and by his answer to Daniel Webster's speech on the apportionment. The Governor came to Rockford with his own handsome team and carriage, and his drives about the country with the Kembles were notable incidents in the social life of the village. Mr. Kemble became insane, and in 1840 he was taken to an eastern asylum, where he died a short time afterward. Mr. Kemble had two sons. Albert, the elder, was an artist. He went to Italy for study, where he married, and died. Edward became an editor,

and founded the California Star, the first English newspaper in San Francisco. For many years after the death of Mr. Kemble, "Black Ike" had a fruit and lunch counter on North Madison street, and is well remembered by old residents.

John Lake was born March 27, 1821, in Selworthy Parish, England. When sixteen years of age he determined to follow his uncle, Thomas Lake, to America, and arrived in Rockford early in December. After three years on a farm, Mr. Lake spent a year as an apprentice to the carpenter's trade, under Thomas Thacher. At the expiration of that time he began the business of contractor and builder on his own account. In the winter of 1852-53 Mr. Lake formed a partnership with the late Phineas Howes, in the lumber trade. The firm's yard was on the site of the old Chicago & Northwestern passenger depot on the East side. After the railroad bridge was completed across the river, the firm removed its yard to the West side, near the present Northwestern freight depot. The business was continued there until the summer of 1856, when it was sold to Mr. Freeman. In November of that year Mr. Lake revisited his native country. He returned in February, 1857, and early in the following spring he again embarked in the lumber business, on the southeast corner of State and Third streets, with his former partner, Mr. Howes. This partnership was dissolved in the autumn of 1859, by the sale of the stock to Cook & Brother, lumber dealers on the West side. From 1860 to 1868 Mr. Lake was a partner with the late Henry Fisher, in the lumber business on the West side. In May, 1867, Mr. Lake again revisited England. In the spring of 1868 Mr. Lake and Seely Perry formed a partnership in the lumber trade, on the corner of Third and State streets, which was continued until 1874. The residences of these gentlemen were built from nearly the same plans. In 1874, and again in 1877, 1889 and 1891, Mr. Lake revisited Europe. Mr. Lake was connected with the Rockford Insurance Company from its organization in 1866 until its sale in 1899. He was its first vice-president, and served in that capacity until January, 1866, when he was chosen president to succeed Dr. Robert P. Lane. Mr. Lake served the Second Ward as alderman ten years ending with 1883. He was a supervisor, and chairman of the board of education.

Mr. Lake and Seely Perry owned the three-story brick block on the northeast corner of State and Second streets. October 11, 1849, Mr. Lake married Miss Almeda M. Danley, of Harlem. Three of their seven children died in infancy. Those who grew to adult life were: Mrs. William H. Crocker, Mrs. Charles M. Clark, Mrs. William M. Prentice, and Frank L. Mr. Lake was a prominent Odd Fellow, and served as grand master of the grand lodge of Illinois, and representative to the sovereign grand lodge of the United States for six consecutive years. Mr. Lake was an attendant at the First Congregational church. He died December 4, 1907.

Henry Thurston and his son, John H., then a lad thirteen years of age, arrived in March. In company with William P. Dennis, of Massachusetts, they had come from Troy, New York, by sleigh and wagon to Chicago. There they met Daniel S. Haight and Benjamin T. Lee, of Rockford, both of whom had known the elder Thurston in the East; and they persuaded the party to settle in Rockford. While in Chicago they met John C. Kemble, who had made the journey by stage from Troy, and the company reached Rockford soon afterward. The son grew to manhood and continuously resided in Rockford until the death of his wife in 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Thurston resided more than forty years in the brick house on South Madison street, which was later used for several years as an annex for the high school. Mr. Thurston published his "Reminiscences" in 1891. They are a valuable contribution to local history. Mr. Thurston was uneducated in the learning of the schools; nevertheless he had a retentive memory, a ready wit, and a natural aptitude for writing that have made his little volume of reminiscences quite popular with all classes of readers. He has graphically portrayed that circle of pioneer social life in which he moved. Mr. Thurston died September 19, 1896.

William P. Dennis was a well known citizen, who held several minor offices. He first lived in a log house on the site later owned by Dr. E. P. Catlin on South First street. Mr. Dennis died in Rockford February 4, 1880. Samuel D. Preston came from New York. He traveled overland from Medina, with his wife and one child. He lived on North Madison street, and later his home was on the site of the office of the Rockford Lumber and Fuel Company. Mr.

Preston was prominent in the early business and political life of the community. He was county treasurer four years. Mr. Preston died February 11, 1844. He was the father of Mrs. L. J. Clark, deceased; Miss Anna T. Preston, deceased, and Miss Mary Preston, deceased. L. J. Clark, his son-in-law, built the old stone house on the southwest corner of Madison and Oak streets. Eleazer Hubble Potter was born in Fairfield County, Connecticut, and emigrated with his parents to western New York when he was about seventeen years of age. Mr. Potter was fully committed to the New England idea that the church and schoolhouse form the real basis of the prosperity of a city. He therefore took an active interest in building up its religious and educational institutions. Mr. Potter made the acquaintance of Samuel D. Preston at Medina, and when these gentlemen came to Rockford they formed a partnership in business. Mr. Potter afterward became a prominent banker. He built the house occupied by Rev. Mead Holmes, who enlarged and otherwise improved it. He also built the fine residence of Gilbert Woodruff. Mr. Potter died at his home in this city, September 1, 1861, at the age of fifty-five years. He was the father of Mrs. William Lathrop, Andrew W., George and E. E. Potter, and Mrs. C. G. Marsh, now living at Weedsport, New York.

Nathaniel Wilder was born in Lancaster, Massachusetts, June 30, 1794. From his native state he removed to Keene, New Hampshire, and from there he came to Rockford with his family, in March. He opened a blacksmith shop in a log building on South Main street, between Green and Cedar streets, and owned considerable property in that vicinity. Mr. Wilder was probably the third blacksmith in Rockford. He continued in this business for twenty-five years, and then engaged in the coal trade. At one time he was a member of the Second Congregational church, but his later faith was Unitarianism. He died July 11, 1884, at the age of ninety years. George W. Brinckerhoff came to Rockford during this year. He was in partnership with Germanicus Kent in various business enterprises. Although Mr. Brinckerhoff was quite prominent at one time, little is known of his later life. Goodyear Asa Sanford was born in Hamden, Connecticut, in August, 1814. He was engaged in farming in the East until he came to Alton, Illinois, in December, 1836.



MANDEVILLE HOUSE, ROCKFORD

Built in 1837 by Richard Montague. Remodeled and still standing in Mandeville Park.



DANIEL S. HAIGHT'S RESIDENCE, ROCKFORD

Built in 1837, on the northeast corner of State and Madison streets; stood for many years on the northeast corner of Second and Walnut streets; razed about 1906. The first session of the Circuit Court was held in this house.



YOUNG WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, ROCKFORD



THE MANNY MANSION, ROCKFORD

Built by John A. Holland in 1854. Razed in 1888 for the Illinois Central Yards

In the following year he came to Rockford and engaged in mercantile business. Mr. Sanford always took an active interest in politics, and was one of the early sheriffs of the county. He was also school commissioner from 1845 to 1847. Mr. Sanford was a member of the banking firm of Dickerman, Wheeler & Co., which began business January 1, 1855. The firm name was changed the next year to Lane, Sanford & Co. The Second National Bank was organized April 29, 1864, with Mr. Sanford as cashier. He succeeded to the presidency, which he held at the time of his death, March 16, 1894. As a banker and man of affairs, Mr. Sanford was very prominent for more than half a century.

Rev. John Morrill and wife made their home in the little village in February. Mr. Morrill's important work in stimulating the religious life of the community will be considered in a subsequent chapter. Mrs. Morrill was eminently fitted for the work to which she was called. David D. Alling was born at Westfield, Connecticut, April 27, 1813. At seventeen years of age he began an apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade. He came to Rockford in October, upon the advice of G. A. Sanford. Mr. Alling built a number of dwellings in the little village, and was a contractor during his entire active life in Rockford. He constructed the old First Congregational church, on the West side. He owned valuable property on South Main street. Mr. Alling died August 1, 1898. He was the father of Mrs. P. W. Danky and Frank Alling.

John Beattie was one of the first emigrants from Ireland to this county. He was born of Scotch ancestry in the north of Ireland, June 21, 1811. He learned the carpenter's trade in his native country, and continued this occupation after his settlement in Rockford. He was successful in business, and became the owner of a beautiful site in the finest residence portion of the city, which is now the home of his daughters, Misses Mary I. and Anna. Several business houses on West State street also belong to his estate. These valuable lots were tendered him in payment for work on the old courthouse, more than half a century ago. Mr. Beattie at first refused them; and it is said he wept the day he became their possessor, because he felt that he had been defrauded. Mr. Beattie was highly esteemed for his sterling character. He was reared in the Presbyterian faith, although he was not a member of any church at the time

of his death. Mr. Beattie died December 3, 1889. Mrs. Beattie died December 7, 1891. Two sons, Edward W. and George D., resided in Montana. Two sons and a daughter are deceased. John Platt was born in West Haven, Connecticut, March 8, 1813. He came from Alton, Illinois, to Rockford in May, and engaged in mercantile business. In 1839 he removed to Pecatonica Township and became an extensive land-owner. He returned to Rockford in 1845, where he resided until his death in 1881. Some years later Mrs. Platt married Robert H. Cotton.

Benjamin Kilburn was born in Belchertown, Massachusetts, August 8, 1808. He settled permanently in Rockford in 1837. He had visited the county the preceding year, selected a place for a home, procured lumber for a house, engaged a man to build it, and then went back to Massachusetts to adjust his affairs. Upon his return to Rockford he was accompanied by Mrs. Kilburn's brother, Henry Maynard. Mr. Kilburn's first house was on the site of the Hotel Nelson, where it stood until 1891. Mr. Kilburn subsequently purchased a quarter-section in the northwestern part of the city. Mr. and Mrs. Kilburn had seven children. Five died in infancy or early youth. Edward B., a son, enlisted in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteers during the Civil war, and died in the hospital at Murfreesboro, in 1863. Mr. Kilburn opened a stone quarry on his place, which proved valuable, and was operated by his son-in-law, the late T. W. Carrico. Kilburn avenue was named in honor of Mr. Kilburn. He died in 1860. Some years later Mrs. Kilburn married Mr. Fales. She died in the summer of 1899. John Miller, with his wife and three sons, Jacob B., Thomas and George, arrived about the middle of May. Jacob was better known as "Old Jake." He was the second resident lawyer, and as a forcible speaker he was in great demand by the Whigs of this section in the exciting campaign of 1840. Among other settlers in the county during the year were: Isaac Toms, William Twogood, Elisha A. Kirk, William Jones, William Peters, Richard S. Stiles, Eli Hall, Levi Taft, Hiram Richardson, Simeon Harmon, Lewis Keith, P. S. Doolittle, Joseph Hayes, Seth Palmer, and his daughter, Mrs. William Conick.

The late Judge Church is authority for the

statement that the population of the county in June, 1837, was 1,086.

The larger number of the early settlers of Rockford came from New England. Some emigrated from New York and other states, but the New England element predominated. These pioneers impressed their personality upon this community, and it has remained until this day. The New Englanders, in their native home, were a homogeneous race; even the Chinese were scarcely more so. With the exception of a few Huguenot families, who came from the old world at the close of the seventeenth century, and who, from religious sympathy and other causes, were easily grafted on the primeval vine, they were all descendants of English stock.

Industry, thrift, and a high sense of personal honor are prominent traits in the typical son of New England. Soil and climate determine in some measure the character of a people. The rocky soil of New England required the husbandman to practice the virtue of industry. That which is purchased at the greatest cost is usually the most highly treasured; and thus the industrious farmer and artisan became frugal. It was a point of honor with a true New Englander to maintain his family and pay his debts. This he could not do except by a persevering industry, and a methodical and prudent management of his affairs. He must be economical if he would be generous, or even just; for extravagance sooner or later weakens the sense of moral obligation. These traits of industry and thrift were pleasantly satirized many years ago by a southern writer in the following paragraph: "We of the south are mistaken in the character of these people, when we think of them only as peddlers in horn flints and bark nutmegs. Their energy and enterprise are directed to all objects, great and small, within their reach. At the fall of a scanty rivulet, they set up their little manufactory of wooden buttons or combs; they plant a barren hillside with broomcorn, and make it into brooms at the bottom,—and on its top they erect a windmill. Thus, at a single spot, you may set the air, the earth and the water all working for them. But, at the same time, the ocean is whitened to its extremities with the sails of their ships, and the land is covered with their works of art and usefulness."

The early New Englanders have been charged

with coldness and severity of manner. For an austere people, however, they have been easily enkindled with noble enthusiasms. There are certain traits prominent in their type of character, such as their love of order and the habit of self-control, which hasty observers have mistaken for tokens of a want of earnestness. But seldom, if ever, has there been a more sublime race than was shown near Boston, in April, 1775, and for eight years thereafter. The accusation most frequently repeated against those stalwart people is that of religious intolerance. Christian charity, however, has been a slow and painful evolution through the centuries; and the New Englander was but a sharer in the world-wide spirit of intolerance. Perhaps they held their spinal columns too rigidly erect, and carried their heads too high to view with tender sympathy the weak and sinful world about them. Nevertheless, they bore aloft the standard of righteousness before a lawless generation, and planted in the new world the seeds of patient, practical and self-denying morality. So the institutions of an enlightened civilization have proceeded from the Christian church, through the sacrifice of the noble men and women of the past, who have served her with a lover's devotion. The early colleges of this land, with very few exceptions, were the offspring of the church, and consecrated by its prayers.

It could not be said that every settler of Rockford belonged to the highest class; but the determining force in the community came from those high ideals of culture and religion, and those habits of economy, industry, integrity and temperance which have made the true Englander a representative of the best elements in our civilization. It was ordained in the beginning that seed should bring forth fruit after its kind. It is none the less true in social and moral life. The moral status of a city or country as truly indicates the character of its pioneers, as the rich, ripe fruit of the vineyard tells the secret of its seed and culture. Hon. R. R. Hitt, in an address delivered in August, 1899, before the old settlers of Seward in this county, said the statement that the early settlers builded wiser than they knew, was a reflection upon their intelligence. He insisted that the pioneers knew what they were doing, and had some conception of the outcome. Certain it is that whatever Winnebago County is today,

is directly traceable to their agency. They have been the architects of her institutions. They laid broad and deep the foundations of her industrial, educational, moral and religious interests, and from time to time they have superintended the superstructure. The large majority of this vanguard have ceased from their labors, and their works do follow them. As the few who remain behold the institutions of learning that have been reared in every town, and the resources provided for the humblest as well as for the strongest; as they look over the prairies reclaimed from barrenness and barbarism through their toil and privations; as they consider the various religious influences that are quietly softening and humanizing the moral nature, they have the satisfaction of knowing that they have not lived in vain.

The year 1838 was signalized by the advent of several physicians who became prominent in early local history. Among this number was Dr. Josiah C. Goodhue, who settled in the autumn, with his family. He had been here the preceding autumn on a tour of inspection. Dr. Goodhue had attained some distinction before he became a citizen of this county. He was born in 1803, at Putney, Vermont. His mother is said to have been a cousin of Aaron Burr. The Doctor was graduated from the school of medicine at Yale, and began practice at St. Thomas, Upper Canada, in 1824. While there he was married to Miss Catherine Dunn. A brother, Sir George Goodhue, was in the employ of the Canadian government. The Doctor emigrated from Canada to Chicago in 1835. He was the first resident physician in that city outside the garrison of Fort Dearborn. When Chicago was incorporated as a city in 1837, Dr. Goodhue was elected the first alderman from the First Ward. There were six wards in the city at that time. William B. Ogden was chosen mayor in that year. Dr. Goodhue designed the first city seal of Chicago, and it became known as his little baby. He was quite proud of his offspring. The Doctor was the real founder of the first free school system of Chicago, and was one of a committee appointed to solicit subscriptions for the first railroad chartered to run from the city, the Galena & Chicago Union. In his practice in Chicago, Dr. Goodhue was associated with Dr. Daniel Brainard. Their office was on Lake street, near the old Tremont House. John Went-

worth and Ebenezer Peck were engaged in the practice of law in the same building. Dr. Goodhue was one of the men who drew the act of incorporation for Rush Medical College, and was a member of the first board of trustees.

Dr. Goodhue's first house in Rockford was what was then known as the "ball alley," on the northwest corner of Madison and Walnut streets, where the Golden Censer brick building was subsequently erected. He afterward purchased a home on the site of the watch factory; and the house was moved away when the factory was built. The lot had at one time a pleasant grove, with no fence. Reference is made elsewhere to the fact that Dr. Goodhue gave to the city of Rockford its name. Four sons and four daughters of his thirteen children, attained adult life. One son, George Washington Goodhue, died of yellow fever, in Mexico, during the war with that country. Another son, William Sewell, died from illness contracted during the Civil war. He had read law with James L. Loop. Dr. Goodhue's oldest daughter was Mrs. C. F. Holland, widow of John A. Holland, and step-mother of H. P. Holland. Mrs. Hoyt Barnum, another daughter, is a resident of Rockford.

THE STORY OF BIG THUNDER.

Dr. Goodhue is said to have taken the skull from the body of Big Thunder, the Indian chief, whose resting-place was on the courthouse mound in Belvidere. Big Thunder was a noted character among the Pottawatomies. His name may have been suggested, according to Indian fashion, by his heavy, rolling voice. His burial place was selected in the highest point of ground. No grave was dug. The chief was wrapped in his blankets, and seated on a rude bench, with his feet resting on an Indian rug. His face was turned toward the west, where he expected a great battle to be fought between his tribe and another. A palisade, made of split white ash logs, from which the bark had been peeled, was placed around his body, and covered with bark. The battle which Big Thunder looked for, never came; and his war-spirit never re-animated his mouldering clay and joined in the victorious whoops of his braves over their vanquished foes. The Indians, as they passed the coop of their fallen chief, would throw tobacco into his lap; and Simon

P. Doty, an early settler, during a torturing tobacco famine, would systematically purloin the weed from Big Thunder. In those days Belvidere was on the stage route from Chicago to Galena; and Big Thunder became the prey of relic hunters. His skull found its way, by Dr. Goodhue, into Rush Medical College, and it was probably destroyed in the great fire of 1871.

Dr. Goodhue's death was the result of an accident, on the night of December 31, 1847. He was called to make a professional visit four miles west on the State road. After caring for his patient, he started for home in the darkness and fell into a well, which was then being excavated, and had not been covered or enclosed, and survived only a short time after he was taken from the well. His death was deplored by the entire community. He was a positive character; nature had liberally endowed him in qualities of mind and heart. Dr. Goodhue was an attendant at the Unitarian church. Mrs. Goodhue was an Episcopalian. She died October 14, 1873. A son of Dr. Goodhue died November 14, 1880.

Dr. Alden Thomas was born at Woodstock, Vermont, November 11, 1797, and was a lineal descendant from John Alden. He was married to Elizabeth Marsh, a sister of Colonel Jason Marsh, June 15, 1824. In the autumn of 1839, the family came to Rockford. In the following spring Dr. Thomas built a house opposite the courthouse. He practiced medicine about five or six years, and then removed to a farm two miles south on the Kishwaukee road, where he lived about two years. The family then returned to the village. He opened a drug store soon after his return from the farm, and continued in this business until a short time before his death. Dr. Thomas was a member of the First Congregational church, and played the bass viol there for some time. A book of music, with words and notes copied by him in a clear, beautiful hand, has been preserved.

Dr. Thomas' children were: Mrs. W. A. Dickerman, E. P. Thomas, Mrs. S. J. Caswell, F. A. Thomas and Mrs. Evans Blake. Henry, the youngest son, enlisted in the army during the Civil war, and was drowned while returning on a furlough. Dr. Thomas' death occurred March 21, 1856. E. P. Thomas is the only surviving child.

Dr. A. M. Catlin emigrated to Illinois from

the Western Reserve, in Ohio, in February, 1838, in company with the Rev. Hiram Foote and Silas Tyler. This party traveled the entire distance in wagons. They were of New England stock, and were part of a movement to found an institution of learning similar to the one then flourishing at Oberlin, Ohio. The brothers, Hiram, Lucius and Horatio Foote, all clergymen, were prominent in this movement. They were more or less influenced by the example of the Rev. Charles G. Finney, the famous revivalist and founder of the Oberlin institution. Ira Baker, Rev. Lewis Sweasy, James S. Morton, a Mr. Field, and others moved from the Western Reserve to Rockford about the same time, and under the same influences. Upon their arrival in Rockford, the only hotel to be found was a double log cabin, and the only bed discovered by Doctor Catlin for himself and boy was a thinly covered, dislocated and dislocating stratum of oak shakes, supported at the sides by the naked logs—a Spartan bed for a cold night. Horace, a fourth brother of the Footes, had preceded the others by a year, and secured a log cabin on Rock River, about two miles above Rockford. Into this single room, with a small loft, were crowded three families, with several children. At that time Dr. Catlin intended to abandon the practice of medicine. To feed his little family, he hired a broken prairie of Herman B. Potter, who lived two miles south of Rockford. This land, six miles from home, the Doctor cultivated under difficulties, for it soon became known to the scattered people that he was a physician, and, like Cincinnatus, he was called from the plow. He was not a man to deny the necessities of others; and against his wishes at the time, he was drawn into the practice of his profession, which he continued until near the day of his death, nearly sixty years later. He had practiced in early life in New York and Ohio, and his entire professional service lasted seventy years. He died in 1892, at the age of ninety-one. Dr. Catlin settled in Rockford about 1839, and entered upon a medical practice which, if not large, was very "wide," as it carried him from Roscoe and above on the north, to Stillman's Run on the south, and from Twelve-Mile Grove and beyond to Belvidere. Much of this was night riding. After the settlers' horses had done their day's work, and after the fall of darkness, in the silence of the night, when



Henry Agnew



Margaret Agnew

watchers became nervous, in the midst of storms and when the primitive household lights burned pale, was the accepted time to send for the medical comforter; and the nocturnal "Hollo, Doctor!" was often heard above the storm at the physician's door. He was never ill, and never refused to answer the call. Even when his own horse failed, he was mounted behind the messenger, and rode out in the night to relieve the sick. Once he was persuaded to mount the back of a sturdy messenger, who bore him and his precious medicine-bag through the swellings of icy Kishwaukee.

The year 1846 was signalized by much sickness. Nearly every family living on low land had malarial fever, and the doctors were busy people. At one time Dr. Catlin could get but four or five hours' sleep out of the twenty-four, and he would become so exhausted that he frequently slept while riding from house to house. One day's ride, for example, included a trip of several miles north of Rockford, and then a tour south beyond the Killbuck, and a return by Cherry Valley, closing the day's work in the following morning. Thirty calls were made, and sixty patients prescribed for on that occasion. During this season Dr. Goodhue was asked what could be done for the sick. To this grave question the Doctor made this characteristic reply: "I don't know unless we build a big smoke-house and *cure* them," referring to the almost universal pallor. Dr. Catlin was an indulgent creditor, and fully shared the burden and poverty of early days.

PROPOSED SITE OF COLLEGE.

The missionary educational managers had selected the mouth of the Kishwaukee as the site of their institution. A large building was begun, but never completed, and the useless frame survived for years as evidence of the untimeliness of their effort. An Indian wigwam still survived on the same site. The Indians, after their bloody victory over the indiscreet militia at Stillman's Run, had abandoned the region, and the military expedition, which included Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis, had been withdrawn. Silver brooches, arrow heads and the like were found beside the deep, narrow Indian trails that wound about the bluffs and across the prairies. Kishwaukee, however, soon had about forty frame dwellings, and Dr. Catlin,

Mr. Tyler, Mr. Field, Mr. Johnson and others resided there.

Although Rockford was from the first clearly indicated as the coming metropolis, by the ford which gave its name, yet Kishwaukee below and Winnebago above were "boomed." In those days they could compare population with Rockford.

STEAMBOAT GIPSY AT ROCKFORD.

On the morning of April 16, 1838, Dr. Haskell and family, Mowry Brown and wife, Samuel Haskell, H. H. Silsby, Isaiah Lyon, Caleb Blood and William Hull boarded the steamboat Gipsy at Alton, Illinois. The destination of this party was Rockford. The river was high, the bottom lands were overflowed, and the boat sometimes left the channel of the Mississippi and ran across points of land, and once went through a grove of timber. When the Gipsy arrived at Rock Island and ran alongside the wharf-boat, a strong wind from the east turned the bow out into the stream. As the boat turned, the rudder struck the wharf-boat, and broke the tiller ropes. This accident rendered the boat unmanageable, and it was blown across the river to Davenport, Iowa. While at Rock Island Dr. Haskell contracted with the captain that upon his return from Galena he would steam up Rock River to Rockford. At Savanna, Samuel Haskell, William Hull and H. H. Silsby left the Gipsy. They had come to the conclusion that the boat would never reach Rockford; and in company with Moses Wallen, of Winnebago village, where the county seat had been located by the special commissioners, they started afoot for Rockford. They stopped over night at Cherry Grove, and the next morning they traveled to Crane's Grove, on the stage route from Dixon to Galena. There they hired a coach and team, which brought them that evening to Loomis' Hotel.

Mr. Silsby writes that a few days after his arrival he arose one morning as soon as it was light, to see if he could discover any sign of the Gipsy. He was rewarded by the sight of dense, black smoke, near Corey's bluff, which seemed to be moving up the river. Soon the Gipsy came in sight, and the people gathered on the banks of the river and cheered the boat as it ascended in fine style until nearly over the rapids, when it suddenly turned, swung around,

and went down stream much faster than it ascended. It rounded to and tried it again, and soon turned down stream a second time. After several attempts, with the aid of a quantity of lard thrown into the furnaces, the boat ran up the swift current, and soon tied up to the bank in front of Platt & Sanford's store, which stood near the water's edge, in the rear of the site of the Stewart block. The Gipsy was the first steamer that visited Rockford. It was a stern-wheeler, not less than one hundred feet in length, and perhaps thirty in width. It had a cabin above the hold, and an upper deck, open and uncovered. There were several staterooms. G. A. Sanford and John Platt had come to Rockford the preceding year, and had formed a partnership in conducting the first store on the West side. Mr. Sanford sold his interest to Dr. Haskell. The following year Mr. Platt retired and Dr. Haskell became sole owner. When the Gipsy arrived the Doctor's eleven tons of merchandise were removed from the boat to the store. A merchant at Beloit had shipped ten tons from Rock Island to Beloit, which were to be delivered at that point. The people came in from the country, and chartered the boat for an excursion up the river, and carried passengers. The captain said he never witnessed such a scene before. They danced all night, and kept the cabin in an uproar day and night until they reached Rockton.

Dr. Geo. Haskell was a native of Massachusetts. He was born at Harvard, March 23, 1799. His father, Samuel Haskell, removed to Waterford, Maine, in 1803. In 1821 the son went to Phillips Exeter Academy, and entered Dartmouth College in 1823. He left his college class in his sophomore year, and studied medicine until 1827, when he received the degree of M. D. from the college. While in college, he taught one term of district school in East Haverhill. One of his pupils was John G. Whittier; and the schoolmaster in Whittier's "Snow-Bound" was his former teacher. On page 34 of Samuel T. Pickard's "Life and Letters of Whittier," is found this allusion to the hero of this poem: "Until near the end of Mr. Whittier's life, he could not recall the name of this teacher whose portrait is so carefully sketched, but he was sure he came from Maine. At length, he remembered that the name was Haskell, and from this clue it has been ascertained that he was George Haskell, and that he came from Waterford,

Maine." Dr. Haskell never appeared to have been aware of the fact that his gifted Haverhill pupil had immortalized him in "Snow-Bound." Dr. Haskell also received this tribute as a teacher from his illustrious pupil, as given in a later chapter of Mr. Pickard's biography: "He [Whittier] was accustomed to say that only two of the teachers who were employed in that district during his school days were fit for the not very exacting position they occupied. Both of these were Dartmouth students: one of them George Haskell, to whom reference has already been made." Dr. Haskell began the practice of medicine at East Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1827, and removed to Ashby, in the same state, in the following year.

Dr. Haskell came to Illinois in 1831, and settled at Edwardsville, and two years later he removed to Upper Alton. While there he became one of the founders of Shurtleff College, of which he was trustee and treasurer. The Doctor built up a large practice, which he soon abandoned. On November 7, 1837, Rev. Elijah P. Lovejoy was murdered at Alton, for his bold utterances in behalf of an oppressed race. Dr. Haskell entertained radical anti-slavery views, and he determined to leave that portion of the state in which the pro-slavery sentiment was largely predominant. From the time of his arrival in Rockford until his removal from the city about twenty-eight years later, Dr. Haskell was a broad-minded, representative man of affairs. He conducted for a short time a mercantile business on the river bank, as the successor of Platt & Sanford, but his ruling passion was horticulture. He entered from the government quite a tract of land lying north of North street, and built the house on North Main street occupied for many years by George R. Forbes. He planted a nursery and became an expert in raising fruit. It is said that one year he raised 60 bushels of peaches. The severe winter of 1855-56 killed his trees, and from that time he devoted his attention to more hardy fruits. His later Rockford home was on North Court street, near the residence built by Hon. Andrew Ashton. Dr. Haskell was generous and public-spirited. He and his brother-in-law, John Edwards, presented to the city the West side public square, which was named Haskell park, in honor of the former. A street, called Edwards place, forms the southern boundary of the park.

A ward schoolhouse in West Rockford also bears Dr. Haskell's name.

In 1853 Dr. Haskell became a convert to Spiritualism, and his long and honored membership with the First Baptist church ceased on the last day of that year. Mrs. Haskell followed her husband, and withdrew from the church May 6, 1854. Dr. Haskell entered upon his new religious life with that energy and enthusiasm which had signalized his former adherence to Baptist doctrine. On April 15, 1854, he began the publication of the *Spirit Advocate*, an eight-page monthly. The paper was an able propagandist of the new faith and twenty-three numbers were published. In the issue of March 15, 1856, the editor announced that the publication of the *Advocate* would be discontinued, and that it would be consolidated with the *Orient*, under the name of the *Orient and Advocate*, with headquarters at Waukegan.

In 1866, Dr. Haskell removed to New Jersey. There he was engaged in founding an industrial school, and purchased with others a tract of four thousand acres, which was laid out for a model community. In 1857 Dartmouth College gave him the degree of A. B., as of the year 1827. Dr. Haskell died at Vineland, N. J., August 23, 1876. The late George S. Haskell, widely known as a seedsman, was a son; and Mrs. Henry P. Kimball was a daughter. Dr. Frank H., Willis M. and Carl Kimball are grandsons. His nephew, Rev. Samuel Haskell, pays him this tribute in Pickard's work, previously noted: "He was a man of scholarship and enthusiasm, a friend of struggling students, many of whom he befriended in his home and with his means."

EARLY BUILDING ACTIVITIES.

In the spring and summer of 1838 Harvey H. Silsby, Mowry Brown, William Hull and William Harvey built a house on North Main street for Dr. Haskell, who afterward sold it to John Edwards. It now forms a part of the club house owned by the Knights of Columbus. In the autumn was erected by Dr. Haskell the brick building which was known later as the Winnebago House, on the Ashton corner. When laying out the ground for the cellar Mr. Silsby persuaded Dr. Haskell to set his building 6 feet from the line of the street. The Winnebago House was the first brick store built above Rock

Island on Rock River. Into this store Dr. Haskell moved the stock of goods from the building on the river bank which had been occupied by Platt & Sanford; and he and Isaiah Lyon continued the business. In 1843 Mr. Lyon closed out the stock, and converted the building into a hotel, under the name of the Winnebago House. Mr. Lyon's successors as proprietor were: N. Crawford, C. C. Cobern, P. C. Watson, James B. Pierce, Isaac N. Cunningham, and D. Sholts. The building passed into Mr. Seaton's hands in 1854, and was afterward rearranged into stores. After finishing Dr. Haskell's brick block, Mr. Silsby and Mowry Brown built a house for G. A. Sanford near the center of the block, south of Porter's drug store, on Main street. Benjamin Kilburn built his house near the Trask bridge road that season. The rear of the Beattie house was built the same summer. In September, 1839, Mr. Silsby and Phineas Howes entered into a contract to build a trestle bridge over the Kishwaukee River at Newburg, once called Sayresville, after its founder, Colonel Sayres. Newburg was then in Winnebago County, on the mile-strip. The bridge was built of heavy timbers framed together, and floor timbers laid from one bent to another to support the floor. This bridge extended several hundred feet south of the river across a marsh to solid ground. Thirty-two years later Mr. Silsby crossed this bridge with a loaded wagon. Mr. Silsby knew the village from the beginning, and he retained his excellent memory unimpaired to the last and rendered great service to the writer in locating buildings of the early days. He died suddenly, April 7, 1899, in Kansas, after having spent the winter with his daughter in Rockford, aged eighty-one years. He was born at Acworth, N. H., November 1, 1817. He went in 1837 to Upper Alton, where he remained until he came to Rockford. After working at his trade for some years, he embarked in mercantile business. Mr. Silsby was survived by two daughters, Mrs. Harriet Griswold and Mrs. Levi Sanders. George A. Silsby, of Mitchell, S. D., formerly in the shoe business in Rockford, is a son.

PIONEERS OF 1838-1839.

James Madison Wight was born at Norwich, Mass., in 1810, was admitted to the bar of Queens County, N. Y., in 1837, and immediately afterward came west. He first joined his

brother, J. Ambrose Wight, in Rockton, but he found no field in that village for the practice of his profession and came in 1838 to Rockford. In his early life he served a few terms as city attorney of Rockford. He was for many years local attorney for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad and for other corporations, and was also for a time a member of the state legislature, and served on the judiciary committee. Mr. Wight was a member of the constitutional convention of 1870, called to draft a new constitution for submission to the voters of the state. To Mr. Wight, law was not merely a profession, it was an absorbing and delightful study. He was above all a student, a perfect cyclopedia of general information, familiar with the literature of many languages, which he read in the original, and a passionate lover of classical music and art. He was a cousin of George Bancroft, the famous historian. He died in Rockford in 1877, leaving to his children the heritage of an honest name, and the memory of a modest, blameless and tender life. Mr. Wight was the father of Mrs. Harriott Wight Sherratt, Miss Mary Wight, and Miss Carrie, who died in 1891. The Wight school was named in his honor.

Jason Marsh was born at Woodstock, Vt., in 1807. At the age of sixteen he removed to Saratoga, N. Y.; in 1831 was admitted to the bar in Jefferson County, where he first practiced. In 1832 he married Harriet M. Spafford, a sister of Charles, John and Catlin Spafford. Mr. Marsh came to Rockford in 1839, accompanied by his wife and children, a brother and wife, and his three brothers-in-law. Soon after his arrival he and the three Spafford brothers built the brick house three miles south of State street, on the Kishwaukee road, later occupied by F. J. Morey. A large farm was attached. Mr. Marsh drove daily to the village, where he practiced his profession. His later home was the residence subsequently owned by the late W. W. Fairfield, on East State street. These beautiful grounds are now subdivided. In 1862 Mr. Marsh entered military service, in the Civil war, as colonel of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. He was severely wounded at the battle of Missionary Ridge in the autumn of 1863, and returned home. Two months later he again went to the front. In the campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta his old wound troubled him

and he resigned. Colonel Marsh was a man of fine presence, rather above medium height and portly. Colonel, or 'Squire Marsh, as he was often called, was a gentleman of striking characteristics. He preserved the courtliness of the old-school gentleman. His social nature was of a generous kind. He was at home either in long-continued argument, or he could adapt himself to the lighter conversation of gallant and graceful nothings of fashionable society. His habitual attire combined the present and the past with striking effect. His blue swallow-tail coat, buff vest and gold-headed cane are intimately associated with his sturdy personality in the minds of all who remember him. Colonel Marsh was a man of well-stored mind, and made his mark as a lawyer at an early day. His last years were spent on his farm near Durand. His death occurred at the home of his daughter in Chicago, March 13, 1881. He was buried in Rockford with military honors. His surviving children were: Mrs. E. H. Baker, Mrs. William Ruger, Cerdric G., and Ogden C., who died soon after his father. J. M. and Volney Southgate and E. P. Thomas were nephews.

Francis Burnap was born at Merrimac, N. H., January 4, 1796. He belonged to one of the old historic families of New England. His mother was a sister of Major-General Brooks, of Revolutionary fame, who was afterward governor of Massachusetts for seven terms. His father was Rev. Jacob Burnap, who for fifty years was pastor of the First Congregational church of Merrimac. Mr. Burnap settled in Rockford in August, 1839, and began the practice of law in Winnebago and neighboring counties, in the state Supreme court, and in the federal courts. His industry and patient persistence in his profession were proverbial. He loved chancery practice, and in the knowledge of this department he had few equals in the state. While he was affable in manner, he was firm in his principles, even to sternness. The tenacity with which he clung to his opinions, and earnestly defended them, sometimes excited enmity. He practiced his profession until 1864, when ill health compelled him to retire. Mr. Burnap died in Rockford December 2, 1866. He was the senior practitioner of the Rockford bar, which adopted resolutions of respect at his death, and attended his funeral in a body. Mr. Burnap never married.

Duncan Ferguson was born in Glasgow, Scot-



Jacob M. Beet & Family

land, in November, 1810. He attended the University of Glasgow two seasons; was employed several years in the land surveys, and soon thereafter was engaged in the trigonometrical surveys of Great Britain, which he continued for ten years. He was employed most of this time in Ireland. In 1837 he left his native land and came to the United States. He first settled in Pennsylvania, where he remained two years, in the employ of two railroad companies, as draughtsman, and removed with his family to Rockford in 1839. In 1840 he was elected surveyor and justice of the peace, and held the office of surveyor until 1856. In 1862 he was appointed assessor of internal revenue and held this position eight years, and then resigned. For ten years Mr. Ferguson was supervisor from the Seventh Ward of the city. In 1873 he was elected chairman of the county board and retained this position until 1881. In 1877 he was elected mayor of Rockford, and served one year. He held the offices of city engineer, assessor, county treasurer, and commissioner of the county under an act of the legislature for the improvement of Rock River. Mr. Ferguson was a member of the First Baptist church until the schism led by Dr. Kerr, when he became identified with the Church of the Christian Union. He was a genial, courtly gentleman, of high character. His death occurred May 14, 1882.

Thomas D. Robertson was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, March 4, 1818, and accompanied his parents to London when he was a small child. He lived with a brother for a time on the Isle of Sheppey, at the mouth of the Thames, where he attended school. He was subsequently engaged with an older brother in the publication of the *Mechanic's Magazine*, and came to the United States in 1838. He stopped for a time in Chicago, and arrived in Rockford in December of the same year. Mr. Robertson studied law in Rockford and at Madison, Wis., was admitted to the bar, and was a prominent practitioner for some years. In 1848 Mr. Robertson and John A. Holland opened the first banking house in Rockford in a building adjoining the European Hotel site on West State street. From that time he gradually abandoned the practice of law, and devoted his attention to banking and real estate. Mr. Robertson was a leader in the movement to secure the extension of the Galena & Chicago Union railroad to Rockford. He had

charge of the collection of the subscriptions to the capital stock in Boone, Winnebago and Ogle counties. Mr. Robertson continuously resided in Rockford for sixty-three years. No other person was as prominent in its business circles for so long a time. The church and Christian education always received his financial support. He was a trustee of Beloit College and Rockford College. His career was signalized by strict integrity and exceptional business ability. His children are: William T. Robertson, president of the Winnebago National Bank, and Mrs. David N. Starr. Mr. Robertson died February 4, 1902.

Deacon Ira W. Baker arrived on Rock River, October 6, 1838, on Saturday, at sundown, with his family of eight, from a grandmother of seventy to a babe of four. At half past ten the next morning all went over the hill a mile away to attend church, at the house of Mr. Batchelder. It was a double log house of two rooms. The door between the rooms was the pulpit. The Rev. Hiram Foote preached. No scene could better depict the early sabbath in church. Organ and choir, long-drawn aisle and fretted vault waft no truer praise. The soft sky and the air of the Indian summer, silent woods of gorgeous hues, the reverent worshipers, strangers in form but kindred in heart, the solemn and touching service, and the polite and tender greetings and farewells were home and church to the true and earnest pioneers.

Edward H. Baker, a son of Deacon Ira Baker, was born in Ferrisburg, Vt., April 5, 1828, and when ten years of age came with his father to Winnebago County. Mr. Baker received his education at Knox College and Illinois College at Jacksonville. He studied law, was admitted to the bar, and at one time was in partnership with his father-in-law, Jason Marsh. Upon the organization of the Rockford & Kenosha Railroad, Mr. Baker was chosen secretary of the company. He was elected mayor of Rockford in 1866, and served one year. At the time of his death Mr. Baker was a director of the public library. His death occurred January 26, 1897. The Circuit court, which was then in session, adjourned, out of respect to his memory. Hon. Charles A. Works pronounced a eulogy, and the bar attended his funeral in a body. Mr. Baker excelled as a toastmaster. He was a thorough student, and acquired a large and varied fund of information. He was an au-

thority upon Masonic matters, and in colonial and local history. Henry N. Baker, another son of Deacon Baker, was also a native of Ferrisburg, Vt. For many years he was engaged in the real estate and loan business in East Rockford. Mr. Baker was for some time president of the board of education. He removed from the city in 1899.

ENTERPRISING BUSINESS MEN.

David S. Penfield was the first of three brothers to settle in Rockford. He was a native of Pittsfield, Vt., and was born in 1812. Mr. Penfield and the late Shepherd Leach were schoolboys together in their native place, and the friendship then formed continued through life. Together they emigrated to Michigan, where they remained a short time, and then continued their journey on horseback to Illinois, and came to Rockford in 1838 by way of Dixon. There was then no stable currency. Large numbers of private banks furnished a currency of more or less value, and each state had its own issues. The exchange of money in traveling from state to state was therefore attended with not a little difficulty, and considerable risk. The unsettled country was infested with baudits, and travelers were never sure, when seeking entertainment for the night, whether they would escape the snare of the fowler. Mr. Penfield and Mr. Leach adopted a rule that is very suggestive. Whenever they came to the house of a settler where flowers were cultivated, there they concluded they would be safe. Upon their arrival in Rockford, Mr. Penfield and Mr. Leach purchased a large tract of land on the West side. They were also in mercantile business on the site of 322 East State street, and there employed the first tinner in Rockford. Their stock included hardware, groceries and other lines, and invoiced about \$3,000. Mr. Penfield formed a partnership with his brother, John G., in the real estate and loan business; and subsequently became a member of the banking firm of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield, which was merged into the Third National Bank. He died May 20, 1873, at the age of sixty-one years. Some years ago Mrs. Penfield gave the site to the Young Men's Christian Association on which its splendid building was erected. Their children were: Mrs. Henry

Robinson, deceased; Mrs. C. R. Mower, of Rockford; and Mrs. Stephen A. Norton.

Shepherd Leach, to whom reference is made in the preceding paragraph, was an extensive landowner, and amassed a large estate. Mr. Leach was gifted with keen business sagacity, and was successful in nearly every enterprise. He had an extended acquaintance among business men; was straightforward in his dealings; and withal, was a man who possessed many qualities worthy of emulation. Mr. Leach died July 9, 1885. Mrs. Edgar E. Bartlett, Mrs. J. B. Whitehead and Mrs. W. L. Frisbie are daughters. The late Mrs. Frank Waxham was also a daughter.

Willard Wheeler came from St. Thomas, Upper Canada, in September, 1839. He was the second tinner in the town. Mr. Wheeler was a brother of Solomon Wheeler. He built the house on South First street where Mrs. Julia A. Littlefield resided. To Mr. Wheeler belonged the honor of being the first mayor of Rockford. He died April 24, 1876.

The Cunningham brothers were among the last survivors of that early period. Samuel Cunningham was born August 15, 1815, in Peterboro, Hillsboro County, N. H. This was Daniel Webster's county, and where he and his brother Ezekiel practiced law. Mr. Cunningham heard Mr. Webster deliver an oration, and voted for him for president in 1836. Mr. Cunningham came to this county in the spring of 1839. His active life was devoted to agriculture. He served one term as county commissioner. Mr. Cunningham died September 28, 1902. His brother, William Cunningham, came to Rockford in the spring of 1838. He spent much of the intervening time on the Pacific coast, but later lived a retired life in Rockford. The writer is indebted to these brothers for valuable historical information. Another brother, Benjamin Franklin Cunningham, preceded Samuel to Rockford in the spring of the same year. He owned a beautiful home below the city, on a rise of ground which commands an extended northern and southern view of the river. A fourth brother, Isaac Newton Cunningham, previously noted, came to Rockford at an earlier date.

Joel B. Potter was born in Fairfield County, Conn., in 1810. From there the family removed to Orleans County, N. Y. He received a collegiate education and prepared himself for the

Presbyterian ministry, but his health failed and he never resumed this calling. In 1839 he came to this county, where his brothers Herman B. and Eleazer had preceded him. He carried on a farm for some years, and was subsequently engaged in the drug business on East State street. He conducted the store alone for a time, and later with his son-in-law, J. F. Harding, as a partner, until the death of Mr. Harding, in 1867, when Mr. Potter retired from business. Mr. Potter and his family were members of Westminster Presbyterian church. Mr. Potter died November 30, 1880. Mrs. Caroline A. Brazee, Mrs. E. S. Gregory and Miss Frances D. Potter, of Rockford, and Mrs. Harriet J. Harding, of St. Joseph, Mo., are daughters.

The Herrick family came from eastern Massachusetts in 1838-39. Elijah L. Herrick, Sr., and three sons, Ephraim, Elijah L., Jr., and William, arrived in Rockford in 1838; and the following year there came three sons, George, Edward, and Samuel, and four daughters, Phoebe, Sarah, Martha, and Hannah. About 1849 the father of the family built a cobblestone house, which was a familiar landmark on Fourteenth avenue. The Herrick family, though typical New England people, possess one interesting trait peculiar to the Scottish clans. It is said this entire family, with one exception, lived in the vicinity of Rockford for forty years, within such distance that all could come together in a few hours' notice. This remarkable fact is seldom paralleled when the size of the family is considered. The father died May 18, 1852; the mother, March 28, 1876; Phoebe, July 13, 1854; Sarah, January 21, 1885; William, February 13, 1885; Ephraim, January 7, 1888; Martha, July 18, 1898. Edward died near Newell, Iowa, September 15, 1899. While a resident of this county he lived on a farm in Cherry Valley Township. He removed to Iowa in 1880, and settled on a farm, where he died.

E. L. Herrick was born at Andover, Mass., September 30, 1820. Mrs. Herrick, previous to her marriage, was a teacher in Rockford Seminary. She came in September, 1852, and taught three years. Their children were: Elizabeth L., Charles E. and Frank J. Mrs. William Marshall was a daughter of Mr. Herrick. The death of Mr. Herrick occurred February 26, 1912. Samuel Herrick was only four years of age when his parents came to this county, and he has continuously resided here

since that time. He is the last survivor of his father's family, and is believed to be (1915) the oldest resident of Rockford, having lived here seventy-six years. His daughters, Hattie and Clara M., are teachers in the Rockford schools.

The three Spafford brothers came to Rockford in 1839, in company with their brother-in-law, Jason Marsh. Their father was Dr. John Spafford. The eldest son, Charles H. Spafford, was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., January 6, 1819. He was educated at Castleton, Vt. He had chosen the profession of the law, but his decision to come west changed his plans in life. Mr. Spafford performed a conspicuous part in the development of the city, and held the offices of postmaster, circuit clerk and recorder. He was president of the Kenosha & Rockford Railroad Company. Mr. Spafford, in company with his brother John, and John Hall, built Metropolitan Hall block. The stores and offices were owned separately and the hall was held in common. Mr. Spafford also, with others, built the block now known as the Chick House. Although Mr. Spafford made a large amount of money, he sustained reverses of fortune. When the banking house of Spafford, Clark & Ellis went into liquidation, he paid all the liabilities of the firm, which were \$45,000. Mr. Spafford's splendid service in the early struggles of Rockford College will be noted in the chapter devoted to that subject. On March 8, 1842, Mr. Spafford was united in marriage with Miss Abby Warren, and in 1892 Mr. and Mrs. Spafford celebrated their golden wedding. Their children were: Mrs. Carrie S. Brett, deceased; Mrs. Charles H. Godfrey, and Charles H. Spafford, Jr., deceased. Mr. Spafford died in September, 1892, at the age of seventy-three years. Mrs. Spafford died in July, 1901.

Amos Catlin Spafford was born September 14, 1824, in Adams, Jefferson County, N. Y. After he came west he followed farming in this county until 1848. About a year later he was interested in a sawmill on the old water-power on the East side. In 1850 he went to California, where he remained two years. About 1854 he became a member of the banking firm of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield. Upon the organization of the Third National Bank in 1864, Mr. Spafford became its president, and held this position thirty-three years, until his death. In 1876 he was one of the state commissioners at the cen-

ennial exposition. Mr. Spafford died suddenly at Adams, New York, while on a vacation, August 22, 1897. Mrs. Spafford died May 22, 1898. Their children were: Mrs. J. W. Archibald, deceased; Miss Jessie I. Spafford; George C. Spafford, president of the Third National Bank; and Mrs. Nellie Staggers.

John Spafford was born November 26, 1821. During his long life in Rockford he was engaged successively in farming, grocery, and grain and lumber trade. In 1856 he became the general agent of the Rockford & Kenosha Railroad company. Until within two years of his death, Mr. Spafford was president of the Rockford Wire Works Company and the Rockford Suspender Company; he was also interested in manufacturing a lubricating oil, and in a planing-mill. Mr. Spafford died December 5, 1897. His manner was ever gracious toward all sorts and conditions of men.

MORE FAMILIAR NAMES.

Phineas Howes was a native of New York, and was born September 25, 1817. He came to Rockford in 1839, and in that year erected a small house on East State street. Mr. Howes was a carpenter and joiner, and followed his trade for many years and for about fifteen years was a partner with John Lake in the lumber trade. He purchased a tract of land in Cherry Valley Township. By strict attention to business, Mr. Howes accumulated quite a large estate. His death occurred October 11, 1894. Mrs. C. H. Woolsey was a daughter. Mrs. Howes was a sister of the late Harris Barnum. She died December 10, 1877.

William Worthington was born at Enfield, Conn., July 5, 1813, came to Rockford in the spring of 1838, and about 1840 built a brick blacksmith's shop on the southwest corner of State and First streets, where the Manufacturers' National bank now stands. Later he built a one story wagon shop on the same lot, about the same size, of wood. This was the first wagon shop on the East side. There were then no other buildings on those corners. Mr. Worthington was the next blacksmith on the East side, after William Penfield, and was probably the fourth in the village. About 1842 Mr. Worthington formed a partnership with Hosea D. Searles, and opened a drug store. This was the founding of the business now carried on by Worth-

ington & Slade. Mr. Searles had come from Connecticut the year before, and was familiarly known as "Doc." Mr. Worthington's children are: Miss Julia, William, Frank, and Charles. His death occurred April 11, 1886.

Laomi Peake, Sr., a native of Herkimer County, N. Y., emigrated from St. Thomas, Upper Canada, to Rockford, in September, 1839. He was one of the few pioneers who brought ready capital. He came with about \$5,000 in money, which was a princely sum for that time. Mr. Peake was the first person who made a harness in Rockford, although a man preceded him who did repairing. Mr. Peake purchased the northeast corner lot on First and State streets, 66 feet front on First street, by 156 feet on State street, for \$100, and erected a brick building 22 by 35 feet, with two stories and a basement, at a cost of \$1,500. The corner of this lot is now occupied by Jackson & Hallock's drug store. In 1852 he completed a second brick block on the same site, and finished a hall on the third floor, at a total expense of about \$8,000. Peake's hall was the first public hall in Rockford. This block was destroyed by fire in November, 1857, and the side and rear walls were left standing. The corner store was occupied at the time by C. A. Huntington and Robert Barnes, as a book-store. Elisha A. Kirk and Anthony Haines purchased the property in the autumn of 1858, and rebuilt the block the following year. In 1841 Mr. Peake built the small brick house directly west of the Anthony Haines residence on the same lot, where seven of his twelve children were born. In 1856 he built the substantial stone house which was for many years the residence of Mr. Haines. Mr. Peake died November 8, 1891, at the age of eighty-four years.

William Hnlin was a native of Salem, Mass., and settled in Rockton Township in 1837 or '38. He was chosen a justice of the peace August 5, 1839, and from that time he was continually in the public service. He resigned from the office of clerk of the County court a few days before his death, which occurred December 10, 1869. In the early forties he removed to Rockford. His home in this city was the residence of Dr. Henry Richings, on North Main street. In 1855 he married the widow of Merrill E. Mack. Mr. Hnlin was a high-minded gentleman, in whom those who knew him best placed perfect confidence. He edited a work on



Simon P. Best & Wife

school law, with forms, which was of value to teachers.

Daniel Barnum was born in 1778 in New York. In 1838, with his wife and six children, he came to Winnebago County, and purchased 160 acres of land in Cherry Valley Township. He died at Rockford November 8, 1870, at the age of ninety-two years. Harris Barnum, son of Daniel Barnum, was born in Danbury, Conn., September 8, 1819, and came with his father to Rockford in 1838. His early manhood was spent on his father's farm; in 1866 he engaged in the shoe business in Rockford with the late Daniel Miller, but soon sold his interest. From 1870 to 1874 he was associated with Duncan Ferguson, Jr., in the real estate and loan business. In 1874 Mr. Barnum was one of the organizers of the Forest City Insurance Company, of which he served as treasurer until incapacitated by illness. Mr. Barnum held the offices of alderman and supervisor. Mr. and Mrs. Barnum had five children, two of whom are living: Mrs. A. G. Parmele and Mrs. Ralph Thompson. Mr. Barnum died February 26, 1899, in his eightieth year.

Horace Miller was a native of Berkshire County, Mass., was born in 1798 and came to this county in 1839, and settled on a large tract of land near the mouth of the Kishwaukee River, which in an early day was known as the Terrace farm. At one time he owned 1,250 acres. From 1850 to 1852 Mr. Miller represented this county in the state legislature. He resided on his farm until about 1861, when he came to Rockford and lived a retired life until his death August 5, 1864. Mr. Miller was father of William H. Miller, a well known citizen. Mrs. Caroline Brown, widow of Judge William Brown, is a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. John Benjamin came from Canada in 1839, and settled in Guilford Township. Mr. Benjamin's step-daughter, Mrs. Sarah A. Cook, had the distinction of being the first matron of Rockford Seminary, and served in this capacity from 1849 to 1852. The students were served with meals in a frame structure directly opposite the first seminary building, on the east side of North First street.

OTHER PIONEERS.

Among the other pioneers of 1838 were: Alfred P. Mather, William Hamilton, Levi Mon-

roe, and Richard Marsh. In 1839 there came Courtland Mandeville, Frederick Charlie, Thaddeus Davis, Sr., Stephen Crilley, D. Bierer, Chester Hitchcock, John Bull, H. Hudson. Others who came previous to 1840 were: Sylvester Scott, James Gilbert, Artemas Hitchcock, John W. Dyer, Samuel C. Fuller, Newton Crawford, Jonathan Hitchcock, Dr. D. Goodrich, Hollis H. Holmes, Stephen Gilbert, and Bela Shaw. Judge Shaw died suddenly May 31, 1865. Five brothers, Thomas, William, John, Robert and Benjamin Garrett, with their parents, settled in Guilford Township. Thomas died January 20, 1900. He was a Manxman, born on the Isle of Man, February 11, 1827.

SETTLERS IN THE FORTIES.

The winter of 1842-43 is known in local history as "the hard winter." Its first snow-fall began November 7, 1842, and continued until the 10th. Much suffering ensued from the extreme cold, the scarcity of food for stock, and the loss of many cattle from hunger and cold by reason of the scarcity of barns and sheds for protection. The country was new; the settlements were sparse; and it was often miles across the dreary stretch of snow-covered prairie between settlements. Many of the houses of the settlers were poor and open, without a tree or shrub to protect them from wind and snow. During this "hard winter" the snow averaged 30 inches in depth. It fell before the ground had frozen, and lay in such a body that the ground did not freeze at all, except in occasional places. The snow drifted to a height even with the top of the rail fences, and then froze so hard that it bore horses and cattle on its surface. During that winter great slaughter was made among the deer. The dogs, borne by the frozen snow, caught such numbers that the forests were cleared of them.

Anson S. Miller was a prominent lawyer and politician half a century ago. He was elected state senator in 1846, was postmaster of Rockford under appointment of President Lincoln, and probate judge from 1857 to 1865. Judge Miller was one of the presidential electors in 1864, and was chosen by the electoral college to carry the vote of Illinois to Washington. Judge Miller was one of the old-school characters, dignified, slightly pompous, with a fund of good stories which he could relate ad libitum.

Judge Miller died January 7, 1891, at Santa Cruz., Cal. For twenty years preceding his death he had resided in that state.

Cyrus F. Miller, a brother of Judge Miller, was born near Rome, N. Y., came to Winnebago County in 1840, and was for many years a well known member of the local bar, and a justice of the peace. He removed to Chicago in 1871, directly after the great fire, and practiced law in that city until 1876, when he returned to Rockford. His death occurred June 4, 1890, at Beatrice, Neb., and his remains were brought to Rockford for burial. Mr. Miller was about seventy-five years of age. Luther L. Miller, an attorney in Chicago, is a son, and Mrs. Israel Shoudy, of Rockford, is a daughter. Asher Miller, another brother, later a resident of California, was also an early settler. The father and three sons came to Rockford about the same time.

Orrin Miller came to Rockford in 1843, and engaged in the practice of law. He was a brilliant and able attorney. Mr. Miller married a daughter of Willard Wheeler. About 1871 he removed to the Pacific coast. His death occurred at Pomona, Cal., near Los Angeles, in February, 1891. He was about seventy years of age. His remains were brought to Rockford for interment. Mr. Miller was a cousin of Mrs. William Brown.

Another early lawyer of the village was Grant B. Udell. His name is occasionally found on old legal documents; but he seems not to have been generally remembered.

Daniel Dow was a native of Perthshire, Scotland. He came to Rockford in 1841, and opened a boot and shoe store, and later carried a general stock of merchandise. He purchased goods at St. Louis, and his first trip to that city was made by team to Galena, thence by the Mississippi to his destination. Mr. Dow continued in business until 1859, when he retired and traveled extensively. Upon his return to Rockford he began dealing in grain. Mr. Dow served the Third Ward as alderman for six years. He was the owner of the valuable Dow block on South Main street.

George Tullock was a well-known citizen of Scottish birth. He was born in 1815, and came to Rockford in 1841. At Chicago Mr. Tullock hired his passage with a teamster; but the roads were so bad that he started ahead on foot, and arrived in Rockford three days ahead

of the team. Mr. Tullock was employed by Daniel Dow nearly four years as a shoemaker. He then became a farmer. He died August 2, 1900.

Marshall H. Regan, born in Rochester, N. Y., came to Rockford in 1842. He was a contractor and builder and engaged in the lumber trade, in which he spent his active business life. Mr. Regan was the architect of the old First Congregational church, on the corner of First and Walnut streets.. He married his first wife, Miss Louisa Dewey, in Rockford in 1845. They had six children. The first Mrs. Eber Carmichael and the late Mrs. O. A. Richardson were daughters. Mr. Regan's second marriage was with Miss Adelaide Stewart, a native of Vermont. Their son, Hon. Frank S. Regan, is an attorney. In 1898, through a local disaffection in the Democratic party, Mr. Regan was elected a member of the legislature as a Prohibitionist. The elder Regan died in Rockford in 1875.

Lewis B. Gregory was born in 1820 in Seneca County, N. Y., a son of Rev. Harry Gregory. He acquired a seminary education, came to Rockford in 1843, and began teaching the same year. After teaching several terms, he became interested in business on the old water-power on the east side of the river. Mr. Gregory was married in Rockford to Miss Lucy E. Spafford, a daughter of Dan and Julia Spafford, who settled in Rockford in 1844. Mrs. Gregory died July 2, 1888. Their children were: Mrs. George N. Safford, deceased; Edward S., deceased, and George B., of Rockford; Carroll S., of Beloit; and Louis L., a physician of Chicago. One son, Charles, died in infancy. Mr. Gregory died February 2, 1911. Mr. Gregory's second wife was Mrs. Stanbro, formerly of Memphis, Tenn.

James B. Howell settled in Rockford November 8, 1843. His business was that of a wool carder and cloth-dresser. When the first dam was completed, Mr. Howell operated a carding and fulling machine on the south side of State street. He erected a building in 1846, and began business in 1848, and continued therein until the dam went out in 1851, when he removed his machinery to New Milford, but returned to Rockford, and some years later formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, M. H. Regan, in the lumber business. After Huntington & Barnes' book store was destroyed by fire, Mr. Howell engaged in the book trade. His stand was the east store in Metropolitan Hall block.

Dr. Lucius Clark became a resident of Rockford in 1845. Dr. Clark was born in Amherst, Mass., June 10, 1813, the third in a family of seven sons, five of whom became physicians. He pursued his medical studies at Berkshire Medical College, Mass., and at Geneva Medical College, in New York, and received the first diploma given by the latter institution. Dr. Clark practiced at Marion, Palmyra, and Chili, in New York, for ten years, previous to his settlement in Rockford. He was a member of the American Medical Association, and of the Illinois State Medical Society. During the Civil war he was in the field a short time as president of the board of examining surgeons for the state of Illinois. He was for many years a trustee of Rockford Seminary. In 1836 Dr. Clark married Julia A. Adams, of Hinsdale, Mass., who died in 1861. In 1864 Dr. Clark married Charlotte M. Townsend, of this city. His death occurred November 5, 1878. Dr. Dexter Clark followed his brother Lucius to Rockford, where he resided until his death, except the time spent in California, where he went in 1850. Dr. Dexter Clark was for many years a prominent member of the Second Congregational church, and superintendent of its Sunday school. Another brother, Dr. E. N. Clark, settled at Beloit; and a fourth brother, Dr. Asabel Clark, resided at Detroit, Mich. Dr. Lucius Clark had two sons who succeeded him in the practice of medicine: Dexter Selwyn and Lucius Armor. Dr. D. Selwyn Clark died February 12, 1898. No citizen of Rockford had a higher sense of professional and personal honor, and his death was universally lamented. The death of Dr. L. A. Clark occurred July 23, 1899, in the house in which he was born fifty years before. He had a wide reputation as an expert surgeon. During his residence on the Pacific coast he was employed as a steamship surgeon for some years, and was a passenger on the first voyage of the *Colema*, which, after long service, foundered a few years ago. Dr. Clark was also surgeon for the Illinois Railroad Company, which position he held at the time of his death. For more than half a century the Clark family was represented in the medical profession of Rockford. In the death of Armor Clark there passed away the last of this historic family of practitioners.

C. A. Huntington came to Rockford in 1845 and in November of that year began his first

term of school in Rockford in a building owned by H. R. Maynard, which stood on the site of the Stuart building. In the following year L. B. Gregory retired from teaching, and Mr. Huntington succeeded him as teacher in the old court house building on North First street, where he remained until the fall of 1848. Mr. Huntington then taught in the old Baptist church on North Main street. In the autumn of 1849 Mr. Huntington was elected school commissioner, and served eight years. In that same year he also opened the first book store in Rockford, on the site of the Third National Bank. He subsequently removed to the opposite corner. There he and Robert Barnes conducted a book store, and a book bindery on the second floor. This block was destroyed by fire November 27, 1857. Mr. Huntington resided in Rockford until 1864, when he removed to California.

Hon. William Brown was born in Cumberland, in the North of England, June 1, 1810. His father's family removed to the United States in 1827, and the senior Brown purchased a farm in Oneida County, N. Y. William Brown began the study of law in Rome, N. Y., and was admitted to the bar. In 1846 he became a citizen of Rockford. In 1852 he was elected state's attorney for the district comprising Stephenson, Winnebago and Jo Daviess counties, and served three years. At the expiration of that time he was elected mayor of Rockford. In 1857 Judge Brown formed a partnership with William Lathrop, which continued three years. He then became a partner with H. W. Taylor, with whom he was associated until 1870. In 1864 he was elected a member of the legislature as a Republican. Judge Brown was first elected judge to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Judge Sheldon to the supreme bench. He was subsequently elected for three full terms. His career on the bench covered twenty years. Judge Brown and Caroline H. Miller, a daughter of Hon. Horace Miller, were married September 19, 1850. Their elder son, Edward W. Brown, has been three times elected mayor of Rockford. Other children are Frank R. Brown and Mrs. H. W. Buckbee. Judge Brown was an able lawyer, a conscientious judge, and a Christian gentleman. The Brown Building is named in his honor, and a controlling interest is owned by his family. Judge Brown died January 15, 1891.

Hiram H. Waldo was born in Elba, Genesee

County, N. Y., November 23, 1827. He came to Rockford in 1846, and completed his early education in the district schools. He studied in summer, and taught in the winter, for several years, until 1851. Mr. Waldo taught in the Redington district, in the old First Baptist church, Cherry Valley, Guilford, Harlem, in the basement of the First Methodist church as assistant to Seely Perry, and as assistant to C. A. Huntington, on First street. While at Cherry Valley he walked to Rockford, a distance of eight miles, to attend a temperance lecture by John B. Gough. Mr. Waldo subsequently spent two years in Chicago, where he secured a clerkship in the postoffice, under Postmaster Dole, and was promoted to the superintendency of western distribution, and remained a short time under Postmaster Isaac Cook. He returned to Rockford when Charles I. Horsman became postmaster the second time. Mr. Horsman did not give his personal attention to the office, and Mr. Waldo assumed this responsibility. He paid Mr. Horsman \$500 a year from the earnings of the office, and retained the balance as his compensation. Mr. Horsman, however, gave him a guarantee that he would receive an equivalent to his salary in Chicago. Mr. Waldo opened a book store in 1855, in a frame building which rested on poles, where the Grand Union tea store now stands. He remained there four years, and then removed into the present stand, in 1859, where for more than half a century he engaged in business without interruption. Mr. Waldo served as school commissioner of Winnebago county from 1857 to 1859, and again from 1863 to 1865. He took an honest pride in the teachers' institutes, which were attended by all classes of people, instead of teachers only, as at present. In politics Mr. Waldo claimed the unique distinction of always having voted with the minority. He was an Abolitionist when there were only seven in the county. His affiliations in later years were generally with the Democratic party. Upon the failure of the Second National Bank, Mr. Waldo was appointed receiver by Commissioner Eckles, and paid eighty-five per cent. of the indebtedness. Since the organization of the Church of the Christian Union in 1870, Mr. Waldo had been an enthusiastic supporter of Dr. Kerr. It is said that up to the time of his last illness Mr. Waldo had never missed a service. Perhaps no man in town was as well known as H. H.

Waldo. He had a ready wit, and the range of his information was broad. He was a shrewd observer of men and affairs, and had an inexhaustible fund of reminiscence at his instant command. His knowledge of the social life of Rockford covered more than half a century, and, with one or two exceptions, surpassed that of any other citizen. Mr. Waldo died April 26, 1912. At this writing, November, 1915, the stock of books is being sold at auction, after a continuous business of sixty years.

L. F. Warner was a native of Connecticut. He read law with Hon. Reuben Booth, who had been governor of the state. Mr. Warner came to Rockford in November, 1848. Chicago at that time gave no promise of so far outstripping Rockford. Mr. Warner was always a Democrat. He was a delegate to the famous convention at Charleston, in 1860, which resulted in a breach in the party, and the nomination of Stephen A. Douglas for the presidency at a later convention. Mr. Warner served Rockford as city attorney. In 1898 he completed a full half century of continuous practice in his profession, and at his death was the senior member of the Rockford bar. Mr. Warner died September 13, 1904.

Melancthon Starr is an honored name in Rockford history. Mr. Starr was born at Albany, N. Y., April 14, 1816; in 1840 went to Tallahassee, Fla., as a commission merchant, where he represented several New York houses. His principal business was the purchase of cotton and its shipment in large quantities to the north. Mr. Starr, however, was a lover of freedom, and he became so disgusted with the scenes incident to slavery that he removed north. He became cashier of the banking house of Nevins, Townsend & Co., on Wall street, New York. His residence was at Jersey City. Mr. Starr removed to Rockford in 1850. He first conducted a dry goods business on the Second National Bank corner. He was assignee of Charles I. Horsman's bank when it failed. In 1855 Mr. Starr became interested in what was afterward called the Winnebago National Bank. This banking house was founded in 1848 by Thomas D. Robertson and John A. Holland. Later John S. Coleman became a partner, and the firm was Robertson, Coleman & Co. On the death of Mr. Holland, Mr. Starr was admitted to the firm; and after Mr. Coleman's death the firm was Robertson & Starr, which continued



Edward M. Billick



Augusta Billick

until the organization of the Winnebago National Bank, in 1865. By reason of the respective characteristics of these gentlemen, the house of Robertson & Starr was sometimes called the firm of the Law and the Gospel. Mr. Robertson was president, and Mr. Starr was vice president until his death. In 1857 Mr. Starr sold his homestead on North Main street to Elias Cosper. It was his intention to return east; but the death of Mrs. Starr changed his plans, and he re-purchased his former home, where he spent his last years. Mr. Starr was the beloved patriarch of a large family circle. On December 6, 1839, he was married to Lucretia M. Nevins, at Norwich, Conn. Their six children were: Harry N.; Mrs. John P. Manny, deceased; Mrs. C. W. Brown, deceased; Chandler; David N.; and Miss Lucretia. The mother died in 1857. In 1861 Mr. Starr married Ellen M. Townsend, who still resides in Rockford. Mr. Starr was a man of the world in the best sense. He was one of nature's noblemen. It has been said he never left a promise unfulfilled. He treated all men with respect. The poorest man was made to feel in the presence of Melancthon Starr that he was a gentleman, and he always received the same courteous treatment as though he were the possessor of unlimited wealth, and moved in the highest social circles. Mr. Starr was a Unitarian. He was a communicant of that church until its membership disbanded, when he became a regular attendant at the Church of the Christian Union. Mr. Starr died, universally esteemed, November 29, 1885. (See Chapter 41.)

John Edwards was born at Acton, Mass., August 18, 1800. He was in business in Lowell before his removal to the West. Mr. Edwards was living at Alton, Ill., during the excitement which resulted in the death of Rev. Elijah P. Lovejoy, America's martyr to free soil and free speech. On that occasion Mr. Edwards took an honorable and decided position in favor of the freedom of the press; and stood on guard at Mr. Lovejoy's bed, with a loaded musket in his hand, the night before that brave Abolitionist was murdered by the pro-slavery mob. Mr. Edwards came to Rockford in 1850. He was the first dealer in pine lumber in the city. His first yard was near the Northwestern railroad track. Most of his lumber at this yard came by team

from St. Charles. Mr. Edwards encouraged the development of the Rockford water-power; was interested in the work of the seminary, and during his last years he was its agent. Mr. Edwards was an upright, worthy gentleman, of New England stock. His death occurred June 14, 1871. Mrs. Edwards was a woman of fine presence and force of character. Their three children were: Mrs. A. L. Chetlain, of Chicago, formerly Mrs. Melancthon Smith; Mrs. Julia Clemens, deceased; and the Rev. John Edwards, a retired Presbyterian clergyman.

Daniel S. Haight, the founder of East Rockford, like his West side rival, did not remain in Rockford to see the fruition of his early settlement. Mr. Haight removed from the village in the winter of 1847-48, and settled in Texas, near Shreveport, Louisiana. He revisited Rockford in 1857. The date of his death is unknown to his old friends in Rockford. There is a tradition, which is commonly accepted, that he was a soldier in the Confederate army, and that he died after the Civil war at Fort Worth, Texas. No worthy record of his life and work has been preserved; but next to Mr. Kent, his name is most prominent in early history.

The gold excitement drew many to California in 1849-50. Among those who went from Rockford were Giles C. Hard, A. C. Spafford, D. K. Lyon, H. B. Potter, Dexter Clark, William Hamilton, H. H. Silsby, Isaac Rowley, Obadiah E. Lamb, a Mr. Smith, a Mr. Lewis, Sylvester Robinson, and Henry L. Simpson. Mr. Robinson died at Mud Springs, forty-five miles east of Sacramento, a few days after his arrival. Mr. Robinson was a native of Connecticut, and came to Rockford in 1847. He was father of Mrs. E. P. Catlin and H. H. and N. S. Robinson. Mr. Simpson died while on his return home, at Peru, Illinois, in March, 1851. His remains were brought to Rockford for burial. Mr. Simpson was father of E. L. Simpson and Mrs. Z. B. Sturtevant. He came to Rockford about 1839, and engaged in the business of blacksmith. He owned a one-half interest in a grist mill at Cherry Valley, and property in Rockford. Mr. Lamb died in California. As in all similar ventures, some were successful; while others received no adequate returns for their journey into the far country.

CHAPTER V.

PIONEER INCIDENTS.

A MYSTERIOUS CRIME—FIRST WHITE DEATH IN COUNTY—FIRST MARRIAGES—FIRST COUNTY RECORDER—FIRST WHITE CHILDREN BORN—PROTECTION OF LAND CLAIMS—TROUBLE AMONG CLAIMANTS—SQUATTER SOVEREIGNTY JUDICIARY—AN AMUSING INCIDENT—A SERIOUS OCCURRENCE—EARLY FERRIES—FERRY RATES—EARLIEST FERRYMEN—STATE ROADS—SUMS APPROPRIATED FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT—PROPERTY OWNERS WILLINGLY DONATE LAND.

A MYSTERIOUS CRIME.

The first crime brought to light in Winnebago County was committed in the summer of 1835. The body of a murdered man, terribly mutilated, was found in the woods, about two and a half miles south of the settlement. This discovery sent a thrill of horror to the hearts of the pioneers, who began for the first time to feel distrustful. The county had been settled by an excellent class of citizens, and this murder was the one dark shadow of these first years. The crime was at first attributed to the Indians; but this accusation was not warranted by their general treatment of the whites. The remains of the stranger were buried in the woods where he met his death. The crime remains a mystery to this day; but the poor fellow was doubtless murdered by an unsuspected Judas for his claim. The settlers allowed the tragedy to pass unrecorded in local history; and not until forty years later appeared the first published statement of the affair. This first crime was the first death of a white person in the county, so far as known. The second death was that of Sampson George, to whom reference is made in another chapter.

FIRST MARRIAGES.

The first marriage was that of Dr. Daniel H. Whitney and Sarah Caswell, and was solemnized by Rev. Seth S. Whitman, of Belvidere, December 10, 1836. The first marriage ceremony

within the present limits of the county was that of Jeremiah Roberts and Harriet Clausen, and was performed December 11, 1836, by Sylvester Talcott, a justice of the peace. The first marriage, however, reported in the registry of the county clerk's office is that of William P. Randall and Miss Delia Driscoll, solemnized February 13, 1837, by William R. Wheeler, a justice of the peace.

Dr. Daniel Hilton Whitney, the first benedict, was a historic character. He was not the Daniel Whitney who figured prominently in the early transfers of land in sections 21, 22 and 27, in Rockford Township. Dr. Whitney settled in Belvidere in 1835, and was elected the first recorder of Winnebago County, which in 1836 included Boone County. Dr. Whitney was tall, of commanding presence, with swarthy complexion, coal-black hair, and eagle eye, and withal the very incarnation of dynamic force. At one time Dr. Whitney was not a believer in revealed religion. Rev. Eleazer T. Ball, a Presbyterian pastor of Belvidere, when on his deathbed, sent an invitation to Dr. Whitney to come and see a Christian die. Death to him was but the kiss of an angel, to waft the gentle spirit homeward to its God. Dr. Whitney died February 17, 1864, aged fifty-seven years. There was much in his life and character that appealed to the love of romance; and he is kindly remembered to this day.

FIRST WHITE CHILDREN BORN.

Melissa J. Long, daughter of John B. Long, born in February, 1836, is entitled to the distinction of being the first white child born in the county. The first male child, Ogden Hance, was born in what is now Pecatonica Township. George E. Dunbar, son of William E. Dunbar, was born in 1836, in a little log house situated one block south of Kent street, on Main. Mrs. T. W. Carrico, a daughter of Benjamin Kilburn, was also among the earliest accessions by birth to the population of the village.

PROTECTION OF LAND CLAIMS.

The protection of land claims was one of the difficulties that confronted the early settlers. Stephen A. Douglas' doctrine of squatter sovereignty was not practicable in dealing with slavery in the territories; and perhaps the re-

nowned and doughty little giant never designed that it should be. But in Winnebago County, during the first five years after the arrival of Kent and Blake, the fact of actual possession was the only title to the soil. The land in this vicinity was not brought into market until 1839 and the Polish claims, which are considered in another chapter, did not permit the land in two townships to be opened to sale until several years later. Claims were made upon lands, deeds were executed and money paid for lands that were still in technical possession of the government. In some instances several transfers were made before the original grantor obtained his patent from the government. Three facts produced this peculiar condition in the real estate market. The "floats" which were given certain half-breed Winnebago Indians by the treaty of Prairie du Chien, were located on desirable lands by shrewd land speculators, who purchased the "floats" from their wards. These claims were given precedence. Another cause was the claim of a Polish count to Rockford and Rockton townships. The third factor was the settlement by the pioneers on lands several years before they were advertised for sale at the land office. Thus this feature of local history is quite complex. Many of the early instruments were not deeds, but simply transfers of claims, or agreements to sell the land when the titles of the grantors had been obtained. These transactions indicate the utmost confidence in the good faith of the government, and this confidence was never misplaced.

Under these circumstances, however, trouble among claimants was inevitable. There was no golden age in which the brethren always dwelt together in unity. The "transfigured menagerie," of which Dr. Boardman speaks, when the lion and the lamb should lie down together, was not fully realized on the banks of Rock River. The law allowed a settler to hold such land as he could enclose. His ambition was sometimes greater than his ability to "enclose," which was occasionally done by plowing a furrow around the claim. The first fences were of split rails or sods. The latter were quite extensively built at first, but were soon abandoned. They were made by building the sides of cut turf and filling the middle with earth. When well made, these fences were quite attractive to the eye. Their insufficiency, however, soon drew attention to hedges, and after trials of many kinds, the osage

orange was extensively used. The county was not entirely free from that depraved and desperate class, who usually keep in advance of the administration of justice by the regularly established institutions of law. But these soon found that the moral atmosphere around them rendered their situation not only uncomfortable, but actually dangerous; and they were warned either to reform or emigrate.

SQUATTER SOVEREIGNTY JUDICIARY.

Although difficulties frequently arose among settlers in regard to their respective titles to land, there were few of so serious a nature that they were not peaceably and satisfactorily adjusted by the claims committee. This was a sort of squatter sovereignty judiciary, which was established in almost every community. When complaint was made, a meeting was called, a chairman appointed, and a verdict rendered, which was very generally respected. A settler who had made what was considered a favorable selection of land, or one that was likely from the growth of the county to become valuable, occasionally found in the morning that a board shanty had been put up during the night on his claim. This cabin would generally be occupied by three or four men, friends of the "jumper," who had come with him to assist in maintaining his seizure. These intruders usually had their shanties ready to put together. The work was done at some convenient sawmill where lumber could be obtained. It was then loaded on a wagon at night; and by morning they would have the house put up, and be ready to maintain their position by force of arms in what they called their "castle." The decision of the settlers' court, in the matter of "jumping claims," was usually in favor of the man who had a family, and who intended to become an actual settler; and it was always carried out to the strict letter.

An instance occurred in Rockford in the winter of 1838-39, in which the "jumper" refused to submit his pretensions to the determination of this tribunal, but persisted in completing his building upon land which had been previously recognized as belonging to another. The neighbors turned out almost *en masse*, carefully raised the building and placed it upon ox-sleds, and with their teams hauled it into town. On the top of the building sat Mark Beaubien, a young

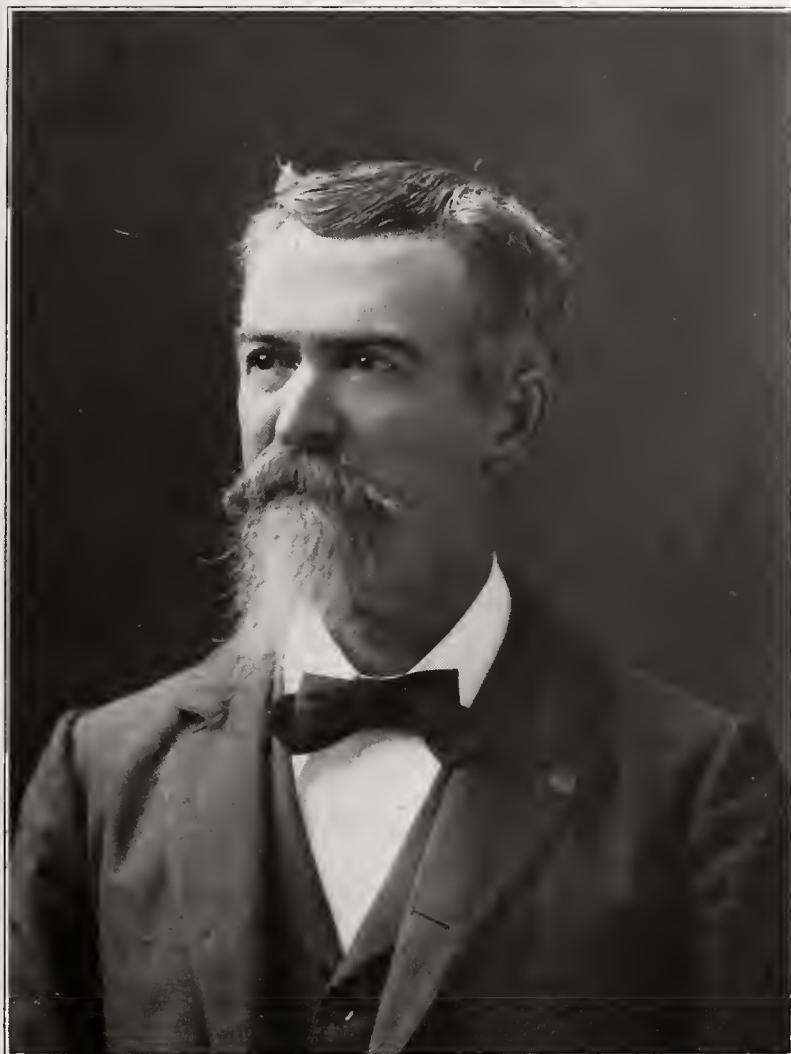
man, who tied together a number of red handkerchiefs into a flaming banner, which he waved in triumph over that portion of the "land of the free." One either side of the cabin, which was now playing the role of a circuit-rider, marched the citizens in procession, one hundred or more in number. Their destination was the residence of George W. Brinckerhoff, who, it was alleged, had counseled the jumping of the claim, and who would be interested therein should it be secured. They quietly deposited their freight in Mr. Brinckerhoff's front yard, and told him they had found his property astray on the prairie; and, fearing some injury might come to it, they had deemed it their duty as good neighbors, to return it to him. They also expressed the hope that he would exercise police regulations over his wayward property. The citizens then quietly dispersed; and it is said no further trouble arose from that source.

Another case occurred at Twelve-Mile Grove, in 1844, which resulted in the death of one of the claimants. Two men started at the same time to pre-empt forty acres of land in that neighborhood. One of them, named Pierce, found on reaching the place that Andrus had forestalled him, and was putting up a cabin. Pierce immediately started for Dixon on horseback. By hard riding he reached his destination the same day, made his entry at the land office, received his certificate, and immediately returned. When he arrived on the tract in dispute, he found thereon the cabin which had just been completed. His opponent had labored all night and had finished his cabin, and was now away at breakfast. Pierce quickly summoned two or three of his friends; and, on the principle that possession is nine points of the law, they entered the shanty, locked the door and awaited developments. When Andrus returned he found that he had been locked out of the cabin, and he immediately rallied to his aid a number of neighbors. Terms of capitulation were offered and refused, and hostilities began. The inmates could not be dislodged; and as a last resort, the assailants tried to overturn the cabin. They had raised one side several feet, when a shot was fired from within, and they dropped their load. As the cabin recovered its perpendicular with great force, the board which covered the window fell in, and one of the attacking party fired through. Pierce sprang through the window, ran a few steps and fell dead, shot through

the heart. The participants in the disturbance were apprehended for riot. One of them was tried for murder; but it could not be proved who fired the fatal shot, and all were acquitted.

The treatment of a Mr. Brown, who came to Rockford in the winter of 1837, with a large family and a very small purse, has been told by other writers. Brown built a log cabin, and moved from his wagon into his new home. He was thereupon told that his castle must be pulled down, as the claim belonged to Mr. Spaulding, who was then at St. Louis. Mr. Brown was not easily intimidated, and defended his rights. One day a crowd, under the influence of liquor, besieged his cabin. Brown confronted them with a musket. Terms of settlement were proposed. "If you will leave this claim, we agree to get you a better one, build a house, and furnish you with provisions." The ruse was successful. The terms were accepted, and the barricade removed, when the goods were ejected from the cabin, which was torn down, and the logs rolled together and burned. Brown's effects were hauled into the woods, and his family exposed to the elements on a cold, stormy night, until compassionate friends gave them shelter. Upon Mr. Spaulding's return, he denied all pretension to the ownership of the claim. Other instances occurred in the county; but as land titles became settled, these controversies ceased.

Jonathan Weldon, who settled at Westfield, was among the early residents. Mr. Weldon was intellectual and shrewd, though physically disabled. In one instance he successfully opposed the entire bar of the county when it was proposed to open a road through his land. In a letter to the late Hon. E. H. Baker, from Eureka, California, under date of November 24, 1886, C. A. Huntington, formerly of Rockford, wrote in part: "Without exception he was the most remarkable man I ever knew. He settled without a dollar in the grove near Rock River, and took up a large farm well chosen with both prairie and timber. His children, when young, two sons and two daughters, while yet in their childhood so plied their young hands to work, that in a few years under the prudent management of the parents, both of whom had judgment and tact, they had fields fenced and plowed, a good stock of horses, mules, swine, cattle, poultry, and money in abundance. Mr. Weldon was a man of education, and in spite of all the impediments of frontier life, he edu-



J. Hilton Ripley

cated his children, all of whom took rank among the best settlers of the county, and one, his oldest son, became a clergyman."

EARLY FERRIES.

The ferry was the first mode of transit across the river. Ferries were established by special acts of the legislature, with regular charters, in territory not under county organization. The issue of licenses for conducting ferries came under the jurisdiction of the commissioners' courts in organized counties. In 1836, at the September session of this court for Winnebago County, Germanicus Kent was authorized to establish a ferry at Rockford, at what is now State street. He was required to pay a license of \$10 for one year. Rates of ferriage were established as follows: For each carriage, wagon or cart, drawn by two horses, oxen or mules, sixty-two and one-half cents; the same drawn by one horse, thirty-seven and one-half cents; for each additional horse, twelve and one-half cents; for man and horse, twenty-five cents; each horse, mule, or head of cattle, twelve and one-half cents; hogs, sheep and goats per score, fifty cents; each footman, six and one-quarter cents. These terms were for transients. Farmers were given a yearly rate. Free ferriage was given to the citizens of the county after the village became incorporated. The proprietors were reimbursed from the village treasury.

At the same session of the court Vance & Andrews were authorized to establish a ferry at Winnebago, on the same terms for license and ferriage as given Mr. Kent. C. Doolittle, by his agent, H. M. Wattles, was granted the privilege of establishing a ferry where the line between Rockford and Owen townships crosses Rock River, on the same terms. In the spring of 1836, Harvey Lowe and Nelson H. Salisbury, who had made claims in Howard in the preceding autumn, returned with their families, and on May 18 they crossed the river at the point now spanned by Trask's bridge. They were the first to cross in the boat which had been launched that day. They had been detained there about a week, and during that time they had assisted in building the boat. This ferry, which was established through the agency of Love and Salisbury, to enable them to cross their claims, subsequently became the thoroughfare in the direction of Mineral Point, and

formed a convenient crossing for all emigrants to the country north of the Pecatonica.

In 1837 the ferry licenses of Kent and Vance were extended another year, at the same rates. Mr. Kent conducted the ferry at Rockford from 1836 to 1838. In the latter year a license was issued to Kent & Brinckerhoff. The rates of ferriage were changed and the license fee raised to \$20. These gentlemen were succeeded by Selden M. Church, who continued the business until the first bridge was built.

Skiffs were used for carrying passengers, and a scow for horses and other property. A scow was made from the halves of large split logs hewn down to proper thickness, and planked in the ordinary manner. A large cable was stretched across the river, supported by posts on either side, which kept it in place. From the ends of the scow smaller ropes ran to pulley blocks running on the cable. By shortening one of these ropes and pushing the boat from the shore so that the current could strike it obliquely, the craft was given the required momentum, and the rapid current propelled it over. The scow could carry two teams at a time. Teams were driven upon the scow, and if any danger was apprehended from frightened horses, the driver would block a wheel to the scow with a chain. A platform at either end of the boat, supported by levers attached to each side, was lowered to the solid landing, and thus formed an easy entrance and exit. A railing at the sides and base at the ends insured perfect safety. The countersign was "Over!" which, with various repetitions and inflections, always preceded the starting of the boat.

There was a ferry-house on either side of the river. The ferryman resided in the one on the West side. It was a frame structure built on the site of the Register-Gazette building, in 1839, by Allen & Brown, for Kent & Brinckerhoff. Its dimensions were 14 by 14 feet, one story, boarded up and down, with shingle roof. James Taylor, a bachelor, was the first ferryman. He was succeeded by Giles C. Hard, and he in turn by John Fisher, after whom Fisher avenue was named. He was a native of New Hampshire, a strong and muscular man, of strict integrity. Mr. Taylor was assisted by Asher Miller. Their combined strength was sometimes severely tested in getting a row-boat, loaded with passengers and mails, across through the ice, when the ferry-boat could not run.

STATE ROADS.

When Germanicus Kent and Thatcher Blake made their settlements, there were no state roads in this vicinity. Indian trails wended their way through prairie and forest, but these did not greatly facilitate the travel of the white man. At that time Chicago and Galena were the only well known points in northern Illinois. The first settlements in the state were made in the southern portion; and as the tide of emigration poured from the east into the Rock River Valley, after the Black Hawk war, each session of the legislature laid out a number of state roads.

By an act approved January 15, 1836, James Gifford, Daniel S. Haight and Josiah C. Goodhue were appointed special commissioners to view, survey and locate a road from Meacham's Grove, in Cook County, to Galena, in Jo Daviess County. The bill directed that the commissioners should make "Elgin on Fox River, in Cook County, Belvidere on Squaw Prairie, in the County of LaSalle, and Midway at the ford on Rock River, in the County of Jo Daviess, points on the said road, and shall fix the said road on the most advantageous ground, for a permanent road, having reference to said points." This road was opened without delay, and State street in Belvidere and in Rockford is a portion of this highway, which extends nearly across the state in a general northwesterly direction from Chicago.

By the same act David W. Whitney, Stephen Mack, and John P. Bradstreet were designated commissioners to locate a road from Belvidere to the mouth of Pecatonica River, at Macktown, which was named in his own honor by its founder, Stephen Mack. By an act of the legislature, approved March 2, 1839, Benjamin T. Lee, of Winnebago County, Ephraim Hall, of DeKalb, and Isaac Marlett, of Kane, were made commissioners to view, survey and locate "a state road from where a certain road terminates at the Will County line, to Aurora, on Fox River; thence, by the county seat of DeKalb County, Rockford, in Winnebago County, Trask's ferry, Pekatonikee; thence to the state line, in a direction towards Mineral Point. The said commissioners shall lay out a state road from the town of Winnebago, in Winnebago County, intersecting the State road in the direction to the Will County line." Mr. Marlett, the third commissioner, was the father of Mrs. O. F. Bar-

bour, of Rockford. About 1839 Charles street was opened as a more direct route to Chicago, by way of St. Charles; hence the name. But it was of little value in this respect beyond Cherry Valley.

In March, 1839, an act of the legislature was approved, by which \$25,000 were appropriated from the state internal improvement fund, which had been created two years before. This money was distributed among the northern counties. It was to be applied by the commissioners' courts of the counties receiving the same, exclusively to the construction of bridges, and the improvement of public roads in their respective counties. Winnebago County received \$3,114.83, with the proviso that "the bridge across Cedar Creek, on the State road leading by Bloomington to the mouth of the Pickatonike, and the improvements of the Great Western mail route or road from the east to the west line of Winnebago County, shall first be made and paid for from the sum appropriated to said county."

Upon the organization of the county, the commissioners devoted considerable attention to receiving petitions for the appointment of viewers to locate roads. The rapid settlement of the county, in a day preceding the railroad, demanded the best possible facilities for transportation. Every property-owner was anxious to secure a public road near his homestead, and was willing to give whatever land was necessary. The records of the county bear testimony to the fidelity with which the commissioners transacted this important business.

 CHAPTER VI.

 STAGE COACH AND COUNTRY TAVERN DAYS.

THE STAGE COACH—FRINK, WALKER & CO. LINE
 PIONEERS IN TRANSPORTATION—PRIMITIVE CON-
 DITIONS IN OLD WAYSIDE INNS—EARLY HOTELS
 AT ROCKFORD—TALLOW CANDLES THE ELECTRIC
 LIGHT OF THOSE DAYS—ROCKFORD HOUSE—
 WASHINGTON HOUSE—ROCK RIVER HOUSE—WIN-
 NEBAGO HOUSE—THE LOG TAVERN—THE STAGE

HOUSE—BROWN'S COTTAGE—THE AMERICAN HOUSE—THE WAVERLY—THE UNION HOUSE—THE INN—THE CHICK HOUSE—THE EAGLE HOTEL—CITY HOTEL—HOLLAND HOUSE—PRIMITIVE VILLAGES WITH CHANGING NAMES—SCIPIO—RIB TOWN—NEWBURG—LEETOWN—A SEMINARY PROJECTED THERE—GRISTMILL ERECTED AT NEWBURG—VANCEBOROUGH—FIRST POSTMASTER OF WHAT IS NOW TWELVE-MILE GROVE—TRIALS OF THE PIONEERS—STURDY TYPE OF SETTLERS—PIONEER WOMEN—FREQUENT SCARCITY OF PROVISIONS—EXCELLENT STORY TOLD BY JUDGE CHURCH—FIRST PATRIOTIC CELEBRATIONS.

THE STAGE COACH.

The state roads naturally prepared the way for the stage coach. Before the railroad had reached this western region, the only common carrier was "the coach and four." Stage lines were then running from Chicago in several directions. They carried mails, passengers and light parcels. Frink, Walker & Co. became famous throughout this region as the proprietors of the one stage line which connected Chicago with Rockford. This firm owned nearly all the stage lines in Illinois, and parts of those in Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and Iowa. The proprietors of these lines were politicians, as it was necessary for members of Congress to aid them in securing mail contracts.

It is impossible to determine the precise date when the stage coach began to make regular trips on this line as far west as Rockford. It is certain that it had thus become an established institution not later than January 1, 1838. On that day the arrival of the stage coach in Rockford attracted the attention of the people of the village, and large numbers came from the surrounding country to witness the spectacle. The stage office in Chicago was for a long time at 123 Lake street, and later at the southwest corner of Lake and Dearborn.

Frink, Walker & Co. first ran their stage lines only from Chicago to Rockford. The coaches were always drawn by four horses. In 1840 the schedule time from Chicago to Rockford was advertised to be twenty-four hours. Horses were changed at intervals of fifteen miles, at stations built for this purpose. Frink, Walker & Co.'s stage barn in Rockford was the well known barn near the intersection of State and Third streets, and faced north and south. It was built in 1836 for Mr. Haight by Sidney Twogood and

Thomas Lake. Few buildings in the county have served more diverse uses. It was there the first patriotic exercises were held; there the First Congregational people first held public services on the East side. When Frink, Walker & Co. purchased the building, it was moved a few rods west, and turned to face east and west. There the first quarterly meeting of the First Methodist church was held in the summer of 1838.

Coaches left the main office in Chicago every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, and returned on alternate days. The fare from Chicago to Rockford was \$5. Mrs. Charles H. Spafford wrote as follows of her first journey: "From Chicago I traveled by stage, one of the old 'Frink & Walker's,' stopping at night in one of the extremely primitive wayside inns of that early period. The accommodations were not extensive nor luxurious in these little hostleries. I was awakened in the night by a light in my room, and saw a man at the foot of my bed, busy with two large mail bags. It was the postmaster changing the mail. Remembering the limitations of the place, I immediately took in the situation, and made no outcry. It was a dreary ride from Chicago to Rockford in the old stage, and I was very glad to arrive at the end of my journey, where my brother was waiting for me at the Rockford House."

From Rockford to Galena the stage line was conducted for a time by John D. Winters, of Elizabeth, a little town south of Galena. The route first passed through Elizabeth, but subsequently the more direct route was by way of Freeport. The first stopping-place west of Rockford was Twelve-Mile Grove. Mr. Winters retired from the business after a time, and then Frink, Walker & Co. had the entire line from Chicago to Galena. William Cunningham, a Rockford pioneer, was in the employ of this firm at one time as a driver between Twelve-Mile Grove and Freeport. As late as April, 1914, William Beckman, one of the stage drivers who came to Rockford, was living in Sacramento, California, and was president of the People's Savings Bank in that city. His first run was from a point near St. Charles to Rockford, and later from Rockford to Freeport.

EARLY HOTELS AT ROCKFORD.

The first hotel in Rockford was the Rockford House. The early public houses were more gen-

erally called taverns. Before the Rockford House was built, Mr. Kent and a number of the other settlers had entertained strangers, but not as regular hotel-keepers. The Rockford House was built by Daniel S. Haight and Charles S. Oliver. It stood on the site of what is now the East Side Inn. The wing was finished in the autumn of 1837, when the house was opened by Henry Thurston. The third story, which was divided into two rooms, was reached by a ladder, which was made by slats nailed to two pieces of the studding, in the first story of the main building. The proprietor's son John was an important functionary. He made the beds and escorted the guests up the ladder when they retired. He was admonished by his sire not to drop the melted tallow from the dip upon his guests. Mr. Thurston's successors as landlord were: Lathrop Johnson, Daniel Howell, Andrew Brown, J. Schaeffer, Abel Campbell, E. Radcliff, Major John Williamson. The last named was father of Miss Lizzie J. Williamson, who was for seventeen years assistant librarian at the Rockford Public Library. Mr. Williamson died in April, 1901. The Rockford House was destroyed by fire March 7, 1869.

The second hotel, the Washington House, was built in 1838 by two brothers, Jacob B. and Thomas Miller, and opened to the public the following year. It stood 60 feet front on State street, with large additions in the rear, with basement kitchen, dining-room, and sleeping apartments above the dining-room. The street in front was graded down, and ten or twelve steps were built. This elevation above the street-level proved quite a serious objection, and the house was abandoned, and it stood vacant for some years. The ground was then excavated, the house turned to the street, and lowered to the grade. The name of this hotel was changed to the Rock River House. A part of the building stands on 307 East State street, and is occupied as a fruit store. Another part is the bookstore building on the southeast corner of State and Madison streets. The successive proprietors of the house were: Jacob Miller, David Paul, McKenney & Tyler, E. S. Blackstone, W. Fulton, H. D. Searles, L. Caldwell. The Winnebago House was built about 1838 by Dr. George Haskell, on the Ashton corner, and was a popular hotel for many years.

The Log Tavern, known as the Stage House, was opened in 1838. It was built on the site of

the Trust Company building. Brown's Cottage was opened in 1850, by Andrew Brown. The name was changed to the American House in 1852 by G. S. Moore. The Waverly and the Union House, near the Northwestern depot, on the West side, were opened in 1852. The Inn, which was located where the Chick House now stands, was opened in 1840 by Spencer & Fuller. The Eagle Hotel was opened in 1841. It was located on South Main street, in the third block below State.

The City Hotel was opened in June, 1852, by James R. Pierce, who had been connected with the old Winnebago House, and was familiarly known as "Santa Anna." Mr. Pierce sold the property to John Bingham, and went to California, where he met a severe reverse in fortune. In 1868 the hotel was purchased by W. A. Dickerman and G. A. Sanford, and after a short time Mr. Dickerman became sole owner. He sold the property about 1880 to E. B. Sumner for \$7,000. The old structure was razed in 1888, and the brick block now occupied by the Forest City Bank was erected by Mr. Sumner.

In June, 1855, a joint stock company, organized under the authority of an act of the legislature, began the erection of the Holland House, an extensive hotel which received its name from John A. Holland. The hotel was completed the following spring, and April 30th an elaborate inauguration festival was given by the citizens to Messrs. Pierce & Bingham, the proprietors. Isaac N. Cunningham, the former landlord of the Winnebago House, was chairman of the committee on arrangements, and presided at the tables. Brief addresses were made by Judge Church, Mayor James L. Loop, Jason Marsh, Dr. Lyman, William Hulin, Melancthon Starr, C. I. Horsman and T. D. Robertson. Like most enterprises of this kind, undertaken in the interior cities of the west, the property was unremunerative, and passed into private hands. A man by the name of Baldwin held mortgage bonds, and foreclosed. He bid in the property at the sale, and then sold it to Robertson & Starr. Mr. Starr purchased the interest of his partner, and sold the hotel to his son, H. N. Starr. Later owners were W. B. Sink and C. W. Brown. The Holland House was destroyed by fire Christmas eve, 1896.

PRIMITIVE VILLAGES.

In 1837-38 several towns were projected in Winnebago County. One was on the east side



Gust E. Blomquist

of the river, on what was called Big Bottom, nearly opposite the stone quarry. A man named Wattles staked out his farm into lots and streets, and called it Scipio; but even its classic name did not give it prestige. The proprietor built the only house ever completed. The stakes remained for several years, until they were plowed under by the owner, who could not give away his lots. Another town was started by the river, at what is known as the old Shumway place. At one time there were from thirty-five to forty frames erected there; but only a few of them were ever enclosed. This fact gave the place the appropriate name of "Rib-town." Later many of these frames were torn down and removed. Several were taken to new farms, and others were brought to Rockford. It is certain that two or three "Rib-town" frames were re-erected in the city. One was owned by Jonathan Hitchcock, and located on North Second street; and another by a Mr. Ricard, on the same street. One frame was placed beside the Shumway house, as a part of it. Mark Beaubien finished one two-story house, and occupied it with his family for two or three years, when they removed to Chicago.

In 1839-40 George W. Lee platted a town on the west or upper side of Kishwaukee River, at its junction with Rock River, in what is now New Milford Township. Quite a town was actually built, with two stores and a blacksmith shop. A large building for a seminary was enclosed and partially finished, but it was never used for this purpose. Although an excellent building, and standing in a sightly place, it was allowed to remain until all the windows were broken out. The frame was finally torn down and the lumber hauled away. This was the first attempt to found a seminary in Winnebago County. Both "Rib-town" and Mr. Lee's plat were named Kishwaukee; but the former was abandoned before George W. Lee platted the second. The latter was sometimes called Lee-town, in honor of its founder.

Colonel James Sayre, a settler of 1835, projected the village of Newburg. He built a saw-mill and afterward put up a gristmill in the same building, which began to grind early in the winter of 1837-38. Colonel Sayre carried on the business for several years. It was the first gristmill built in the northern counties, and was of great value to the settlers. Mr. Thurston says he went there with a bushel of wheat on

his pony the third day after the machinery started. There was no bolting apparatus, and the meal was sifted by hand. The machinery was crude, and the mill was abandoned. Newburg is today only a cross-roads, with nothing to remind the visitor of the time when it was considered a rival of Belvidere and Rockford.

Perhaps few persons now living have ever heard of the Vanceborough postoffice. Vanceborough was another name for Twelve-Mile Grove, on the State road, about halfway from Rockford to Freeport. Ephraim Sumner, born in Winhall, Vermont, February 9, 1808, settled near there in 1835. Mr. Sumner engaged in milling and farming near Twelve-Mile Grove, and became an extensive land-owner; represented this district in the Twenty-sixth General Assembly; held several minor civil offices; and on February 11, 1845, was commissioned postmaster at Vanceborough, to retain the office during the pleasure of the postmaster-general, C. Wickliffe, during the administration of John Tyler. The seal is the figure of a man on horse-back, with a small mail-bag upon his back. Both man and horse are apparently in great haste to reach the next station. This commission, now in possession of Hon. E. B. Sumner, is well preserved. The elder Sumner built a stone house at Vanceborough, which is still in a good state of preservation, and has well nigh outlived the memory of the town. These primitive villages along the old stage lines were superseded by the railway station, and they now scarcely live in memory.

TRIALS OF THE PIONEERS.

It is well that Winnebago County was settled by sturdy pioneers, men of will and purpose, who knew no such word as fail; who pushed out in advance of civilization, with the determination of the old Norse baron, who engraved upon his shield, as heraldic device, a pickax, surmounted by the motto, "Where there's no hole for me to pass, I'll make one." It must be evident to the casual observer that only a small portion of the human family possess the qualifications for pioneers. It is not the business of the pioneer to seek good society, but to make it. The social status was based upon respectability. In the rural districts a family would sometimes drive twenty-five miles in a lumber wagon, to visit a "neighbor." In the villages amusements were

extemporized to dispel the lonesomeuess of the long winter evenings. Among the most popular was the "mock court." The sessions of the court were held in Mr. Miller's store, where "pent-up Uticas" of spread-eagle eloquence were allowed full expression. Each member of the court had his sobriquet; some of those were not suggested by the muses. Another popular summer amusement with a certain class was the "awkward squad," which performed frequent evolutions around Sam Little's saloon. They always produced a "smile."

The noble band of women displayed the fortitude of true heroines. They shared the toils, endured the privations, counseled in difficulties, encouraged in despondency, and nursed in sickness.

At the first reunion of the Society of Early Settlers, held at the Holland House, February 2, 1871, Charles I. Horsman responded to the toast, "The Mothers and Daughters of the West," in which he paid them this tribute:

"I don't know why I have been selected to respond to this toast, only that the ladies and I have always been good friends, and I find them my best friends in prosperity and in adversity.

"'Man works from sun to sun,
Woman's work is never done.'

"Mr. President, the truth of this old adage was literally verified in the early settlement of this county. It was the women that carried the laboring oar, and it was to their untiring industry by day and night that we, the men, mainly owe the measure of success we have achieved. It was her words of encouragement, and smiles of approbation that cheered us on in the darkest hour of trial. They were not the effeminate angels that Willis writes of, 'with lips like rose-leaves torn,' but sterling women that met the stern realities of life, and were equal to the occasion; . . . and, Mr. President, what would we poor fellows have done when burning up with fever, or chilled to death with the ague! But for the kind offices of wife and mother and sister to smooth our pillow, bathe our fevered brows, and moisten our parched lips, many of use here tonight in robust health would be lying under the clods of the valley. All honor, say I, Mr. President, to the mothers and daughters of the west, those who, with their enterprising fathers and husbands, left their own pleasant

hills and valleys to tread upon the receding footsteps of the red man."

SCARCITY OF PROVISIONS.

One of the greatest privations of the early settlers was the scarcity of provisions, which at that time were obtained from the older settlements in the southern portion of the state. The pioneers possessed limited means, and few were individually able to bear the expense of a journey of such distance. Several neighbors would unite their small sums, and send one of their number for supplies. The difficulties of travel were great; there were rivers to cross, either to ford or swim; streams and sloughs to be waded; muddy roads and ponderous wagons. Under these circumstances, the time of the messenger's return was uncertain. Later, when a trade in provisions had been established, the same obstacles kept them at almost fabulous prices, and the settlers were sometimes reduced to the verge of absolute destitution. Flour sold from \$16 to \$20 per barrel, and on one occasion Thomas Lake purchased three barrels at \$22 each. Pork was \$30 per barrel; wheat sold from \$3 to \$4 per bushel; New Orleans sugar 25 cents per pound; and other provisions in proportion. This condition rendered it impossible for the great majority of the settlers, with their scanty means, to scarcely procure the necessities for their support. For six weeks in the winter of 1837-38 there was a tobacco famine, which was a terrible privation to the slaves of the weed. "Judge" E. S. Blackstone said the people in the early forties were too poor to cast a shadow. Mr. Thurston ventures the assertion that in 1841-42 there were not twenty farmers in the county who possessed a suit of clothes suitable to wear at church or at court, which they had purchased with the fruits of their labor on their farms. Some who had passed the prime of life became discouraged and returned to their homes in the east to die. Barter was practiced even in payment for performing the marriage ceremony. Abraham I. Enoch, a justice of the peace, once took a bushel of beans as his fee. Joel B. Potter, a clergyman, was compensated for two ceremonies in wheat, and one day's breaking. Ephraim Sumner swam Pecatonica river twice one cold night, to perform the rite, and received fifty cents. Had it not been for a beneficent Providence, who stocked

the woods and prairies with game and the rivers with fish, many would have suffered for the necessities of the barest subsistence. As late as 1841 the scarcity of fruit was a great trial. In many homes there was little, but many housewives could produce most appetizing mince pies from their store of dried apples.

The late Judge Church once told this story: "I have in my mind one who is now among the most prosperous farmers, who found himself without the means of procuring for his family a single meal, and he, with one of his neighbors similarly situated, determined to try their luck at fishing. They proceeded to Rock river, and met with success entirely beyond their expectations. When returning, each with as many fish as he could well carry, said one farmer: 'Well, we have got our fish, but what have we to fry them in?' 'Fry them in!' replied his hopeful and satisfied companion. 'Why, fry them in *water*!' And could you in those days have visited the log cabins scattered over these prairies, that are now groaning under the load of a bountiful harvest, and covered with all the evidences of comfort that wealth can purchase, you would have found many a man going to his hard day's toil from as scanty a breakfast as of suckers fried in water."

FIRST PATRIOTIC CELEBRATIONS.

The patriotism of the little villages of the county did not differ essentially from the prevailing type. It necessarily found its expression in more primitive ways than it does at the present time. There was such a display of eloquence and gunpowder as the times afforded, and the amusements differed somewhat from those of today. On July 4, 1836, when Belvidere was in Winnebago County, the citizens of that village let loose their patriotism in quite unconventional fashion. Dr. Daniel H. Whitney has given this vivid picture of the day: "Young Morn shook from her purple wings as glorious a Fourth as ever kissed Aurora's cheek when she unbarred the gates of light, and no more patriotic and grateful hearts beat in American bosoms on that glorious day than did those of the citizens of Boone, as with all available material at our command, an old rifle, a tolerable shot-gun and a pocket pistol, the old settlers took their position on the mound, raised a liberty-pole, from

which fluttered in the breeze a pocket handkerchief having the portraits of the presidents around its border, and being the nearest approach to a national flag of anything in these 'diggings.' We read the Declaration of Independence, fired a national salute, gave three times three that frightened the Indian from his wigwam, and the red deer from his covert."

The morning of July 4, 1837, was welcomed at Rockford with the boom of all available artillery. A hickory liberty-pole was raised near what is now 310 East State street, and patriotic exercises were held in Mr. Haight's barn, which stood in the grove near the intersection of State and Third streets. Charles I. Horsman read the Declaration of Independence, and Hon. John C. Kemble was the orator of the day. Dinner was served in the old Rockford House, by the proprietor, Henry Thurston. The main part of the building had been covered with a roof, and was sided to the first-story windows. Loose boards were laid for a floor, tables were arranged, and, in the absence of crockery, the cold meat was served on shingles. The tickets for this dinner were sold at one dollar each, and this feature of the celebration was a financial success. J. Ambrose Wight, in a letter written many years later, referred to the celebration in this wise: "The seventeen-year locusts were on hand and gave us such music as they had; sufficient at least in quantity. And in seventeen years again they were on hand in the same vicinity; that is, their successors were. After the celebration there was a dinner with toasts given and liquors swallowed. But a temperance society was organized in the barn during the afternoon. The elder Mr. Potter, Eleazer or Herman, I forget which—but who lived near by in the grove, was the leader in the movement." The celebration was concluded with a public ball, the first in the county, given in Mr. Haight's barn. John H. Thurston, in referring to this event, says: "Some shirting was tacked to the studding about one room for a ladies' dressing-room." The orchestra consisted of three pieces. In this day they would be called violins; but seventy-eight years ago they were simply common fiddles. The leader, Mr. Thurston says, was "old Jake Miller, whose only dancing tune was 'Zip Coon.'" Thus passed the first celebration of the national holiday in Rockford.

CHAPTER VII.

LAND TITLES.

POLISH CLAIMS—THEIR FOUNDATION—POLISH EXILES REACH ROCKFORD IN 1836—SELECTION OF LANDS BY POLISH AGENTS—SETTLERS WITH NO TITLES BECAME UNEASY—THEIR SQUATTER RIGHTS DISREGARDED—APPEAL TO WASHINGTON—COMPLICATION OF QUESTION OF TITLES—LAND OFFICE REMOVED TO DIXON—POLISH AGENT'S CLAIM FORFEITED—CONGRESS PASSES NEW LAW—SETTLERS PETITION FOR PUBLIC SALE OF LANDS—HISTORY OF THIS MEMORABLE SALE—PERFECT TITLES FINALLY SECURED—TRUTH STRANGER THAN FICTION.

POLISH CLAIMS.

Events of local interest occasionally have their historic background in national and even international affairs. A notable instance was the celebrated Polish claims made in 1836 to a portion of the territory which now comprises the townships of Rockford and Rockton. It is one of the most interesting chapters in the history of Winnebago County. Local histories have briefly referred to the incident, but no complete statement of the affair has previously been written.

The checkered career of Poland furnishes the historic background. The reader of history will recall the Polish rebellion of 1830-31. Previous to that time her territory had been partitioned between Russia and other powers. The impulse to this uprising of 1830 was given by the French, and was begun by a number of students, who proposed to seize the Grand Duke Constantine in the vicinity of Warsaw. The city and the troops enlisted in the movement, under the command of General Chlopicki, a veteran of the wars of Napoleon. Upon the suppression of this uprising in the following year, the leaders were sent into exile. They sought refuge in this country.

The forlorn condition of these exiles enlisted the sympathy of the American people, and Congress rendered them some assistance. An act was approved June 30, 1834, which granted to

these Polish exiles, 235 in number, who had been transported to this country by the order of the emperor of Austria, thirty-six sections of land. These sections were to be selected by them, under the direction of the secretary of the treasury, in any three adjacent townships of the public lands, surveyed or unsurveyed, in the state of Illinois or the territory of Michigan. After this land had been surveyed, it became the duty of the secretary of the treasury to divide the thirty-six sections into equal parts, and to distribute them by lot among the exiles. They were to reside upon and cultivate these lands for ten years, and at the expiration of this time they were to obtain their patents upon the payment of the minimum price per acre.

POLISH EXILES.

The exiles arrived in America in 1835, and their committee, at the head of whom was Count Chlopicki, arrived in Rockford in the autumn of the following year. The Count was an elderly gentleman, well informed, and apparently an excellent judge of land. Upon his arrival in the Rock river valley, he selected townships 44 and 46, range 1 east. These are Rockford and Rockton. The intervening township of Owen was not taken, and thus was violated one of the provisions of the grant, which stipulated that the land should be selected in three adjacent townships. Much of this land was already in possession of American citizens when Count Chlopicki arrived upon the scene. They had only a squatter's title, inasmuch as there was then no pre-emption law that would apply in this case, and the government had not placed the land upon the market. The settlers had enclosed their farms and made such improvements as they were able. Moreover, the several Indian "floats" in these townships might have precedence over the claims of settlers or exiles. But these facts did not disturb the plans of the doughty nobleman. He disregarded the squatter rights of the settlers, made a formal selection of their land, and reported his choice to the secretary of the treasury.

While in this section Count Chlopicki had been a guest of Germanicus Kent. That gentleman explained the situation to his visitor, and the latter declared that the settlers should not be disturbed. He thus set their fears at rest in a measure. But these assurances were not entirely satisfactory, and after the Count's depar-



A. F. Bower



Sarah H. Bower

ture a sum of money was raised and Mr. Kent was sent to Washington to make further inquiry. The anxiety of the settlers was increased by the fact, as already stated, that they held no titles to the land upon which they had settled. Upon Mr. Kent's arrival in Washington, he found that his apprehensions were well founded. The Count had not kept his word; he had chosen the very townships he had promised Mr. Kent he would not select. Mr. Kent went directly to the land office and made his complaint before the commissioner; but he was told that every settler in the county was a trespasser, and that he had no legal right to a foot of the land which he had so unceremoniously taken. It is said facts are stubborn things. Mr. Kent and the settlers knew that the commissioner was correct, but they did not become alarmed. Perhaps they thought that in union there was strength. The secretary of the treasury did not, however, order the subdivision of the lands, because their selection by the Polish agent was not in compliance with the law, and thus the matter rested for some years.

The selection of these lands by the Polish agent, while squatter's possession was held by the settlers, complicated the whole question of titles. The settlers had certain rights in equity, but inasmuch as no pre-emption law was then in force that would bear upon the case, the government did not at that time formally recognize their claims. In view of this fact, it is not a matter of surprise that the Polish count, in his desire to select good lands for his exiled countrymen, should disregard claims that the government did not recognize. Moreover, this section of the Rock river valley had been framed in the prodigality of nature. Its soil was good, its atmosphere invigorating, its scenery a perpetual delight. The possession of such land always promotes domestic happiness and commercial strength. The lands in this vicinity belonged at that time to the Galena land district, and with the exception of Rockford and Rockton, were opened to sale and entry in the autumn of 1839. These townships, which included the thirty-six sections in controversy, were withheld from sale for nearly eight years after they had been surveyed.

CONGRESS PASSES NEW LAW.

Matters continued in this unsettled condition until 1843. In the meantime the land office had

been removed to Dixon, through the influence of John Dixon, who settled there in 1830, and after whom the town was named. In 1840 Mr. Dixon went to Washington, and through the influence of General Scott and other army officers, who were his personal friends, he secured the removal of the government land office from Galena to Dixon. The settlers in Rockford and Rockton could not procure patents on the lands which they had occupied for some years. The attention of Congress was repeatedly called to the situation. The settlers addressed petitions to that body until their grievance received attention. The Polish agent had forfeited his claim in not selecting his lands in three adjacent townships. The exiles had also forfeited their rights in not making an actual settlement on the lands. Congress therefore, April 14, 1842, passed another act, authorizing the entry and sale of these lands in these two townships. This relief was due in large measure to the efforts of Hon. O. H. Smith, of Indiana, Hon. Robert J. Walker, of Mississippi, and Hon. Richard M. Young, of this state, senators in Congress.

When the settlers had been finally delivered from their dilemma by a special act of Congress, they began to make preparations to perfect their titles to their lands. The inhabitants petitioned the president for a public sale. Fifteen months elapsed before their petition was granted, and October 30, 1843, the land in these townships was offered for sale, and was sold November 3d. It was the most notable land sale that ever occurred in the district. Rockford had been incorporated as a town four years before. Daniel S. Haight had platted the East side, north of State as far east as Longwood, and south of State east to Kishwaukee. A portion of this had been platted as early as 1836, and Mr. Haight had sold the lots to the settlers and given them quit-claim deeds to the same several years before he had obtained his own patent from the government. When the land was finally offered for sale at the land office, Mr. Haight was authorized to go to Dixon and bid in the entire tract for the settlers. A committee, appointed for this purpose, prepared a list of names to whom the deeds should be given after the sale. This committee consisted of Willard Wheeler, David S. Penfield, E. H. Potter, of Rockford, and Nathaniel Crosby, of Belvidere. This committee was in session several days, passed upon every lot in the town on the East side, and decided

quite a number of disputed claims. Mr. Crosby was not present, but it was understood that a majority should have power to act. Thus a number of the first settlers of East Rockford purchased their land twice. The first purchase, of town lots, was from Mr. Haight; the second was made through Mr. Haight as agent, from the general government. Inasmuch, however, as the land office took no notice of the fact that the land had been platted, it was sold at the usual price of \$1.25 per acre. The second purchase was therefore more of a formality than an additional burden. With the land sold in bulk, at \$1.25 per acre, the second purchase of a town lot, from the government, was at a nominal price, merely its relative value to an unplatted acre of land. This second purchase, however, perfected the title.

At this point it may be necessary to state that Mr. Haight's first sales of land were perfectly legitimate transactions. The purchasers knew at the time that a second purchase would be necessary to procure a perfect title. There was recently found among some old papers of the late Francis Burnap a list of the town lots in East Rockford and the names of the persons to whom the deeds should be given after the land sale. At the same sale at Dixon the land on the west side of the river was hid in for the settlers by Ephraim Wyman. The West side committee was composed of G. A. Sanford, Derastus Harper, and George Haskell. The certificates of title were turned over to Mr. Wyman by the committee. When Mr. Wyman went to California, about 1850, these certificates were left in a trunk, in charge of G. A. Sanford. During Mr. Wyman's absence they were totally destroyed by rodents; and these facts are set forth with grave precision by Mr. Wyman, in a certificate, duplicates of which are on file in the abstract offices of the city.

STRANGER THAN FICTION.

Thus for a period of nine years from Mr. Kent's settlement were the early residents of Rockford and Rockton unable to obtain titles to the lands which they had selected and improved, by reason of the illegal intrusion of an exiled Polish count. The sequel is one of those facts that is stranger than fiction. Only one of those exiles ever subsequently appeared in Rockford or Winnebago County. He was employed

for a time as a cook, in 1837, by Henry Thurston, the landlord of the old Rockford House. The later history of the exiles is unknown.

Mr. Haight's plat of East Rockford was filed for record November 7, 1843, four days after the land sale. The east part of the original town of Rockford, west of Rock River, included all that part of the city lying south of a line drawn from the Beattie residence west to the Horsman estate, and east of a line drawn from the latter point to the west end of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad bridge. It was platted by Duncan Ferguson, November 9, 1843, and filed for record by Ephraim Wyman, November 28, 1843. J. W. Leavitt's town plat included all that part of West Rockford situated between Wyman's plat on the east, and Kent's Creek on the west and south. This plat was made August 17, 1844, and filed for record October 5, 1844.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE BANDITTI OF THE FRONTIER AND LATER CRIMES.

A WELL ORGANIZED GANG—COUNTERFEITERS—HORSE THIEVES — ROBBERS — MURDERERS — SETTLERS FORCED TO ADOPT RADICAL MEASURES—COUNTY REGULATORS—MURDER OF JOHN CAMPBELL—LYNCH LAW—ROBBERY OF M'KENNEY AND MULFORD—INDICTMENT OF REGULATORS—"NOT GUILTY"—REVOLTING CRIMES—EXCITING CRIMINAL CASES ON RECORD—MURDER OF COLONEL DAVENPORT—REGULATORS FINALLY COMPLETE THEIR WORK—BANDIT GANG EXTERMINATED—MURDER OF SHERIFF TAYLOR—EX-GOVERNOR BEBB TRIED FOR MANSLAUGHTER—LATER MURDERS AND EXECUTIONS.

A WELL ORGANIZED GANG.

From 1837 to 1845 the Rock river valley was infested with a notorious gang of outlaws. The leaders of this gang had come from Ohio, and settled in Monroe Township, Ogle County, at South Grove, in DeKalb County, a short distance east of the old village of Lynnville, in

Ogle County, in a grove of timber in Dement Township; at Washington Grove, and at Lafayette Grove. One member made his home at Inlet Grove, in Lee County, and one made his home at the Rockford House, Rockford. The latter had a good address, and was given \$4,000 by his father when he left the parental home. About 1837, while he was an unknown member of his band of outlaws, he came within a few votes of being elected a justice of the peace, over James B. Martyn.

The operations of this band extended through the western and northwestern states. Along the entire line there were convenient stations, in charge of men, who, to all appearance, were honest, hard-working settlers. Such was William McDole, a quiet, industrious resident of Rockford. Under this arrangement, a horse stolen at either end of the line or elsewhere could be passed from one station to another, and no agent be absent from his home or business for more than a few hours at a time; and thus for years they remained unsuspected. At that time few counties were sufficiently organized to enforce efficient police regulations. This section was sparsely settled; the pioneers were poor, and money was scarce. There were few jails, and these were scarcely worthy of the name. For several years after the settlement of Winnebago County, the nearest jail was at Galena. There is a story to the effect that the sheriff of this county once took a culprit to Galena, and upon his return to Rockford his late prisoner was among the first to greet him.

SETTLERS ADOPT RADICAL MEASURES.

This primitive condition of society was the opportunity of the border outlaw. Counterfeiting, horse-stealing, robbery and even murder were of such frequent occurrence that the settlers were driven to desperation. They resolved to adopt radical measures for relief; for if these outrages were continued, property was insecure, and life itself was in constant jeopardy. In the spring of 1841, a delegation of reputable citizens of White Rock and Paine's Point, in Ogle County, called upon Judge Ford, who was then holding Circuit court at Oregon, for consultation. Judge Ford was a fearless man, and naturally well equipped to meet the peculiar conditions of pioneer life. He knew that the settlers were at the mercy of the banditti, and that it was use-

less to invoke the civil authorities. He therefore advised them to organize a company, which should call upon the men whom they knew to be lawless, take them by force from their homes, strip them to the waist, and lash them with a blacksnake. He recommended thirty-six lashes as the first chastisement, and sixty for a second offense; and that the leaders should be given ten days in which to leave the country. Judge Ford's advice was followed to the letter. A decree from the bench could not have been more faithfully executed. In April about fifteen citizens met at a log schoolhouse at White Rock and organized a company known as the Ogle County Regulators. By-laws and rules were adopted, and the membership increased to hundreds in Ogle and Winnebago counties. The late Ralph Chaney was an active member of this organization. The writer is indebted to Mr. Chaney for information of those stirring experiences.

John Earle was the first victim of this savage justice. It was proved that he had induced a young man under twenty years of age to steal his neighbor's horse. Earle's coat and vest were removed and his arms pinioned. Six or seven men were chosen to administer five lashes apiece. Mr. Chaney relates that a deacon of the church inflicted the most vigorous strokes. The result was quite unexpected. At the next meeting of the Regulators, Earle applied for membership, was admitted, and became a good worker. The second instance occurred in the afternoon of the same day. The culprit's name was Daggett. Before coming to the west he had been a Baptist minister. He was not a shining example of the perseverance of the saints, a distinctive doctrine of that church; for he had fallen from grace with a dull, sickening thud. Daggett was tied to a tree and was given ninety-six lashes. Dr. Hobart examined him occasionally, to prevent fatal injury.

MURDER OF JOHN CAMPBELL.

Soon after their organization, John Campbell was chosen captain of the Regulators. A short time after they had begun their work of extermination, Mr. Campbell received an epistle from one William Driscoll, in which he offered battle with the most terrible oaths. The Regulators were challenged to meet him Tuesday, June 22, at his home in South Grove. Mr.

Campbell was generally recognized as the right man to lead such an organization. He was a devout Scotch Presbyterian, who had come from Canada. At the appointed time 196 men, armed with rifles and muskets, responded to the challenge. They were mounted on good horses; with the stars and stripes unfurled to the breeze, and a bugle, they formed in line, two abreast, and began the march to the field of battle. When they arrived at South Grove they found seventeen members of the gang in a log house, barricaded for defense, armed with fifty-four guns of different kinds. The Regulators halted just outside of gunshot and held a council of war. Before making an attack, it was resolved to send a messenger to the house, to ascertain the plans of the inmates. Osborn Chaney volunteered to beard the lions in their den. When within forty rods of the house the men broke through the door, and ran away; and Mr. Chaney did not get an opportunity to speak with any of them. Soon after Mr. Chaney returned to the company he was followed by a man named Bowman, who said he had a message from John Driscoll, to the effect that if the Regulators wished to confer with him, he would receive the message from Bowman, and from no one else. William Driscoll also sent word by the same messenger that he had 300 allies at Sycamore, and that they would meet the Regulators on the prairie two hours later. The latter repaired to a level piece of ground, examined their guns, and awaited developments. In due time Driscoll arrived, with the sheriff of DeKalb County and two other officials, who wished to know the meaning of the demonstration. Captain Campbell stood in a wagon, and in a vigorous speech gave them the desired information. Meanwhile Driscoll sat on his horse about four feet distant, silent, but in a terrible rage. The officials from DeKalb County expressed their sympathy with the Regulators, and the Driscolls promised to leave the state within twenty days. The Regulators disbanded for the day and went home. The Driscolls did not keep their word. On Sunday, June 27, David and Taylor Driscoll, who had been chosen to murder Campbell, accomplished their purpose. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell had just returned from church at the log schoolhouse at White Rock. While going from the house to the barn about twilight, he was shot through the heart by David Driscoll. Ralph Chaney was making his

home with his brother Phineas about three-quarters of a mile distant. He heard the report of the gun and the cries of the family. He and Phineas immediately went to the assistance of the Campbell family.

News of the tragedy spread quickly to Rockford and other towns. Mrs. Campbell was a witness of the murder, and there was no doubt about the identity of the assassins. On Monday the sheriff of Ogle County and a posse arrested John Driscoll at the home of his son David, near Lynnvile, and the sheriff and his posse then went to South Grove in search of William Driscoll. The elder Driscoll was seated in a wagon between two guards. A company from Winnebago County had preceded them, and had arrested William and his younger brother Pierce. The sheriff took his prisoner to Oregon and lodged him in jail.

LYNCH LAW.

About nine o'clock Tuesday morning a party went to the jail and with heavy timbers battered down the door. They took John Driscoll from his cell, put a rope around his neck, and dragged him to the river as rapidly as possible. The sheriff pursued, but before he could overtake them, they had entered a boat with their prisoner and were soon on the other side of the river. There they met a man from Washington Grove, who told them there was a party at that place who had taken the two sons, William and Pierce. They then proceeded with John Driscoll to Washington Grove, where they met the Rockford division. By this time, about ten o'clock in the forenoon, the crowd had increased to about 500 and nearly every class of people was represented. The horsemen dismounted, secured their horses, and stacked their arms around a tree. They formed a hollow square around the tree, and brought the three Driscolls into the centre. Among the lawyers present was E. S. Leland, who acted as the leader, and conducted an examination of the prisoners. A mob court was instituted. The senior Driscoll was asked how many horses he had stolen in his time; to which he replied that he supposed he had taken as many as fifty. "Could you not say a hundred?" asked an inquisitor; and the old man, with a faint smile, said: "It might be." He confessed that he had paid young men from fifteen to twenty-five dollars to steal a horse from



J. Arthur Breckinridge

a neighbor, simply to satisfy a grudge, when he received no pecuniary reward from the theft. William Driscoll was similarly interviewed. Pierce Driscoll was examined, but no evidence was found against him, and he was given his liberty. John and William were then told that David and Taylor had been identified as the murderers of Campbell; also that the evidence had proved them to be accessories in the plot at Bridge's house on the preceding Saturday evening. After further deliberation, Mr. Leland called for an expression of opinion upon the guilt of the prisoners, by the uplifted right hand. The decision was almost unanimous against them. The vote upon their punishment was equally decisive that they should be hung, then and there; and they were given one hour in which to prepare for death. The condemned men implored their executioners to change the method of death from hanging to shooting. This request was granted by a unanimous vote. The senior Driscoll had stood in the meantime with the rope around his neck, and he asked Mr. Chaney to remove it.

The arrangements for the execution occupied about an hour and a half. Jason Marsh, of Rockford, was present, and proposed to Charles Latimer, as an additional formality, to defend the prisoners, and present their case before the mob court. Mr. Marsh then made the opening plea for the prisoners; "and I must say," writes Mr. Chaney, "he did himself credit, and full justice to the prisoners in his speech. Latimer followed in behalf of the people, and made a very able speech." There were several ministers of the gospel on the scene, who spent the time allowed the prisoners in prayer and conversation with them. It was an occasion of great solemnity. Righteous wrath was expressed in the resolute and orderly execution of mob justice. When the hour for execution arrived, about one hundred and twenty men were drawn up in a line, in single file. This line was divided in the center. John Driscoll was led out by Captain Pitcher, in full view of his executioners. He was made to kneel ten paces in front of the west half of the line. His eyes were blindfolded, and his arms pinioned behind him. At the signal, every gun, save one, was fired in a single volley. John Driscoll fell forward on his face without a struggle or groan, or the apparent movement of a muscle.

William Driscoll was then brought out and

placed at the same distance before the center of the other half of the line. He was blindfolded, pinioned, and made to kneel upon the ground. As Judge Leland counted three, the volley of more than fifty guns was as the sound of one. William Driscoll was dead. The father and son fell about forty feet apart. A grave was dug between them, about two and one-half feet deep, and four feet wide. The old man was first taken and placed in the grave, without coffin or shroud; and then the son was laid by his side. Their caps were drawn over their faces, and thus they were buried, without the presence of a mourning friend. Mr. Chaney assisted in carrying the elder Driscoll to the grave, and discovered that the bones of his head were literally broken to pieces, and the region of the heart perforated with bullets. In William Driscoll's vest front were found forty bullet-holes. After their execution one of their guard stated that William Driscoll in his prayer confessed he had committed five murders, and prayed to be forgiven. It is said that just before he was led out to die, William called his brother Pierce and said: "They are going to kill me, and I want you to take that money of mine that is hid and give my children a liberal education, and spend it for their support until they become men and women and grown. There is a plenty of it." Pierce expressed his willingness to do so, but said: "I don't know where your money is; you have never told me." William tried to tell him, but exclaimed: "O my God! I can't do it!"

A strange sequel occurred many years later. The farm that had been owned by William Driscoll became the property of a man named Byers. One day in autumn, while he was threshing, three men came on horseback and entered the grove west of the house. After surveying the premises, they located a spot and began digging. Byers ordered them to stop, but he was confronted by a revolver and an order to return and mind his own business. After their departure, Byers went to the spot and found a hole which they had dug in the ground, and beside it a small empty box, and at the bottom of the hole the mark and place from which the box had been dug. No explanation was ever found. A reward of \$500 was offered in August, 1841, for the capture of David and Taylor Driscoll, by a committee of the citizens of Ogle County. David Driscoll never returned. It was reported

that about two years after the murder of Campbell, he was shot dead in Iowa by a sheriff who was attempting to arrest him. Taylor Driscoll was indicted for the murder of Campbell, and kept in different jails nearly two years; and by changes of venue and confusion of witnesses, he was at length given his liberty. Throughout these strange proceedings the Regulators were sustained by the ablest lawyers and best citizens throughout the country. "Doctors and scholars, ministers and deacons" regarded this terrible example of lynch law as a public necessity.

Some months after the execution of the Driscolls, the matter was brought before the attention of the grand jury in Ogle County. Judge Ford then resided at Oregon, and it is said this action was taken at his suggestion. At the September term of the Circuit court, indictments were found against one hundred and twelve citizens. Among these were four Chaney brothers, Richard, Phineas, Osborn and Ralph, three of whom became residents of Rockford; and Horace Miller, Jason Marsh and Charles Latimer, of Winnebago County. The case was called for trial at the same term of court. Judge Ford presided, and Seth B. Farwell appeared for the people. Some of the jurors were under indictment for complicity in the affair. Several witnesses were called, and pleas made; and without leaving their seats the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty." No one expected a conviction; but it was considered desirable to have the matter settled according to the regular form of law. Thus closed the trial of the largest number of defendants ever indicted under one charge at one session of a grand jury known to the judicial history of this section.

ROBBERY OF M'KENNEY AND MULFORD.

The execution of the Driscolls was only the beginning of the work of extermination; although it was the sole instance where such desperate measures were considered necessary to accomplish their purpose. Robberies and murders continued, and the people lived for years under a literal reign of terror. On September 19, 1843, the store of William McKenney, near the site of 318 East State street, in Rockford, was robbed of a trunk containing nearly \$1,200. A reward of \$200 was offered for

the apprehension of the thief and the recovery of the money; but he was an expert, and eluded capture.

The community was startled two weeks later by another bold depredation. One of the four-horse coaches belonging to Frink, Walker & Co., was robbed four miles from Rockford, while enroute to Chicago. It is said the baggage of the passengers was stolen from the rear of the coach while in motion, and that the fact was not discovered until its arrival in Newburg. The next morning the trunks were found a few rods from the road. They had been broken open and all property of any value had been taken. A plan had been laid to secure a large amount of money which had been on deposit in the land office at Dixon, and this was the object which it was intended to accomplish by the robbery of the stage coach at this time. It was known that a considerable sum of money, which had been received from the sales of public lands, was on deposit at Dixon, and was about to be removed. A leader of the banditti had asked the receiver when he intended to go to Chicago, where the deposit was to be made. The receiver was a prudent man, and his suspicions were aroused. He therefore replied that he would leave Dixon one week later than he really intended to start; he thus baffled the plot of the robbers. No immediate clue to this robbery was obtained.

On October 28, 1844, a man who gave the name of Haines called on William Mulford, residing on his farm in Guilford, four and a half miles east of Rockford on the Cherry Valley road. It had been falsely reported that Mr. Mulford had received about \$14,000 a short time before and this rumor had reached the robbers. Haines professed to be in search of employment. His real purpose was to obtain money by other means than honest toil, and had come to look over the premises. On November 9, about eight o'clock in the evening, three masked men, armed with pistols, knives and clubs, forced an entrance into the house. The leader ordered Mr. Mulford to sit down. He then took the candle from the table, cut it into three pieces, lighted them, placed one in each of the two windows, and with the third began his search of the house. With the most direful threats the family were forced to submission. The keys to bureau drawers were demanded. They were told that they were in the stable behind the horses. This was a ruse to give Mr. Mul-



Fannie L. Preckwidge

ford an opportunity to reach his rifle in another part of the room. When the men went to the barn he attempted to reach the gun, but another man, who had been stationed at the door, held a pistol close to his head and ordered him to desist. The robbers could not find the keys in the barn and returned in a rage to the house. They swore they would "chain the old devil," and set the house on fire, and by that time they would tell where the keys were. Mrs. Mulford imagined she heard the clanking of chains, and told the robbers where the keys could be found. They unlocked the drawer and found the money in an envelope, just as it had been taken from the bank. One of the gang was identified as Haines, who had called in search of employment. It was subsequently learned that two men, armed with rifles, stood outside, and for their benefit the candles were placed at the windows.

EXCITING CRIMINAL CASES.

Thus far the perpetrators of these bold outrages had eluded capture, but Nemesis was on their trail, and in due time she summoned a cloud of witnesses to bring them to justice. In the spring of 1845 Charles West, of Lee County, was arrested for the robbery of a peddler named Miller, and a portion of the goods was found in his possession. West was committed to jail at Dixon, and during his confinement he proposed to turn state's evidence, and disclose all he knew concerning his confederates. It was an instance where "the devil was sick, the devil a monk would be." His proposition was accepted.

This startling intelligence soon reached Rockford, and created great excitement. Upon the strength of West's statements, Oliver and McDole were immediately arrested, and an officer was dispatched to bring West to Rockford, where his testimony incriminated other members of the robber band, declaring that Charles Oliver and William McDole, of Rockford, were members of the band. He also gave the names of the outlaws who committed the robberies at McKenney's store and Mulford's farm-house. His story was generally believed. Oliver and McDole were required to give bail in the sum of \$1,500 each, for their appearance at the next term of court; in default of which they were committed to prison. A few days later Bridge, one of the leaders of the banditti residing in Ogle County, was arrested and placed in jail

at Rockford. A guard was necessary for some time, for their protection. The trial of Oliver began in the Circuit court August 26, 1845. His indictment was for receiving money stolen from William Mulford, in November, 1844. Hon. Thomas C. Brown was the presiding judge. There was an unusual display of legal talent. The district attorney was James L. Loop. He was assisted by Thomas D. Robertson, Jason Marsh, James M. Wight, and Miller & Miller. Martin P. Sweet, of Freeport, and M. Y. Johnson, of Galena, were the counsel for the defendant. S. C. Fuller, the jailor, testified that the prisoners tried to bribe him to furnish them with brace and bits so that they might effect their escape. Each offered Mr. Fuller \$50 at first, and then increased the sum to \$500. During the trial Oliver was defiant, and confident of acquittal. But since his arrest Retributive Justice had been forging another chain of convicting evidence.

During the summer Jason Marsh had received a letter from the warden of the penitentiary at Jackson, Michigan, to the effect that a prisoner in his charge knew about the robbery, and was willing to testify. Mr. Marsh went to Michigan and found the prisoner to be Irving A. Stearns, who had formerly resided in this county, and who had left the state soon after the robbery. He had been convicted of some crime in Michigan and sent to the penitentiary. Mr. Marsh pretended not to recognize Stearns; but told him that he wanted to know what he had to say upon the subject, and that he would know if he told the truth. Mr. Marsh found the testimony of the prisoner very important, and communicated the facts to the governor, who gave to Mr. Marsh a conditional pardon for Stearns. The prisoner's communications to Mr. Marsh, however, were made without any promise of consideration whatever. Mr. Marsh returned to Rockford and at the time for the court to convene, he sent for Stearns, and upon his arrival he was placed in close confinement until he was wanted in court. Oliver knew nothing of these facts. When Irving A. Stearns was called as a witness for the people, Oliver was startled, and sat crestfallen by the side of his counsel. Courage and hope had fled together. Stearns testified that the secrets of the Mulford robbery had been given by Oliver, and that Oliver had offered him some of the stolen money in exchange for a horse. His evidence was

straightforward, and a rigid cross-examination failed to weaken it at any point. The case was given to the jury Saturday afternoon. The jury was out an hour and a half, when it returned with a verdict of guilty, and a sentence of eight years' confinement in the penitentiary. Thus terminated the most exciting criminal case ever tried in Winnebago County. The case was managed with great ability on both sides. The argument of James Loop and the exploit of Jason Marsh have become familiar traditions of the local bar of the olden time. Bridge took a change of venue on all his indictments to Ogle County. When his case was called he plead guilty, and was sentenced to the penitentiary for seven years, and McDole was sentenced for seven years in the penitentiary.

John Long, Aaron Long, and Granville Young were executed at Rock Island in October, 1845, for the murder of Colonel Davenport. This execution practically completed the work of extermination which had been begun by the Ogle County Regulators on Tuesday, June 29, 1841. Burch was indicted for the murder of Colonel Davenport. He took a change of venue to another county, and made his escape from jail. The three Aikens brothers died as they had lived, although they escaped the penitentiary. Bliss, Dewey and Sawyer, confederates in Lee County, were sent to the penitentiary. Bliss died in prison. The way of the transgressor is hard.

MURDER OF SHERIFF TAYLOR.

November 11, 1856, John F. Taylor, sheriff of Winnebago County, was instantly killed by Alfred Countryman. On that day Alfred and John Countryman came to Rockford from Ogle County with some cattle, which they offered for sale at such low prices as to arouse suspicion. The cattle were sold for a sum below their market value. The purchasers delayed payment until notice had been given the sheriff, and papers made out for the apprehension of the brothers, which occurred about nine o'clock in the morning. They were then arrested on suspicion; and before they were taken to jail Sheriff Taylor searched them for concealed weapons. He found pistol balls in Alfred's pockets, and upon inquiring for his revolver the prisoner replied that he had none. Sheriff Taylor, assisted by Constable Thompson, then started with the

prisoners for the jail. Just as they reached the steps Alfred Countryman broke away from the sheriff, leaped over the fence on Elm street, and ran down that street, with the sheriff in pursuit. At the next corner, near the livery stable of Hall & Reynolds, the sheriff had nearly overtaken Countryman, and was about to seize him, when the latter drew a pistol which he had concealed, and fired. The sheriff staggered a few paces and fell. His only words were: "I'm shot; catch him." Countryman ran to the woods north of Kent's Creek, with hundreds of infuriated citizens in pursuit. John Platt was the first to overtake him. He took his pistol from him, and with assistance, secured his arrest. Amid threats of lynching, the prisoner was placed in jail and securely ironed. Samuel I. Church, the sheriff-elect, briefly addressed the crowd and assured them that the prisoner was secure.

Sheriff Taylor was thirty-one years of age, and left a wife, and a son a year and a half old. He was an excellent officer, and was held in high respect by the community. The funeral was held Thursday on the public square, adjoining the jail, under the charge of the Masonic fraternity. The board of supervisors were in attendance in a body. The discourse was preached by Rev. W. F. Stewart.

Countryman was indicted and tried for the murder of Sheriff Taylor, at the following February term of the Circuit court. The prosecution was conducted by U. D. Meacham, the state's attorney, assisted by William Brown. The counsel for the defense was Orriu Miller and T. J. Turner. The following gentlemen constituted the jury: Levi Tuuks, Philo C. Watson, Anthony M. Felmlly, Silas G. Tyler, Jacob B. Place, G. R. Ames, Allen Rice, Charles Works, J. W. Jenks, Edward Peppers, J. W. Knapp, S. P. Collier. The trial began on Monday, February 23. The case was given to the jury on Thursday; and Friday morning they returned a verdict of guilty. Judge Sheldon pronounced the sentence of death upon Countryman. One of his counsel, Mr. Miller, tried to obtain a stay of proceedings, so as to bring the case before the Supreme court. But Judge Caton refused to grant a writ of error. On Friday, March 27th, Countryman was executed on the farm of Sheriff Church, a short distance from the city.

EX-GOVERNOR BEBB TRIED FOR MANSLAUGHTER.

On May 19, 1857, a charivari resulted in the instant death of one of the party. Hon. William Bebb, ex-governor of Ohio, was residing in Seward Township. His son, M. S. Bebb, had just returned from the east with his bride. Twelve young men of the neighborhood proposed to charivari the bridal party. They assembled at the house about eleven o'clock at night, and began their performance with cow-bells, tin-pans, three guns, and other articles which could contribute to the hideous din. The governor at length appeared with a shot-gun and ordered them to retire. They paid no heed, and Mr. Bebb fired one barrel, which took effect in the face of William Hogan. The party then approached nearer the house, as for an assault, when the governor discharged the second barrel at the leader, Lemuel Clemens, and instantly killed him. The crowd then speedily dispersed.

The trial of Governor Bebb, for manslaughter, began February 4, 1858, in the Circuit court, Judge Sheldon presiding. The prosecution was conducted by U. D. Meacham, the state's attorney, who was assisted by T. J. Turner. The counsel for the defense was the famous Tom Corwin, of Ohio, assisted by Judge William Johnson, James L. Loop, and Judge Anson S. Miller. The trial began in the courthouse, and in order to secure more room, an adjournment was taken to Metropolitan Hall. The greatest interest was manifested in the trial, by reason of the reputation of the defendant, and the celebrity of Mr. Corwin. Both sides of the case were argued with great ability. The central figure was, of course, Mr. Corwin, who so eloquently plead his client's case that he secured full acquittal.

LATER EXECUTIONS.

It was more than a third of a century before another murderer paid the death penalty in Winnebago County. On September 5, 1893, John Hart killed his two sisters, Mary and Nellie Hart, on the homestead six miles from Rockford. The crime was attributed to trouble in the family over a division of the estate left by their father. Hart was indicted in October, and his trial began January 22, 1894, before Judge Shaw. A. H. Frost prosecuted the case as state's attorney, and John C. Garver and A. E. Fisher were attorneys for Hart. A ver-

dict of guilty was reached February 5, and Hart was executed March 16, 1894, by Sheriff Burbank, in a stockade erected in the jail-yard.

James French, an Italian, said to have been moved by jealousy, killed his wife, Catherine French, Sunday, July 19, 1896. French's trial began May 3, 1897, before Judge Garver. A. H. Frost prosecuted, and French was defended by C. W. Ferguson, of Rockford, and W. L. Pierce, of Belvidere. French was found guilty May 14, and was hanged June 11, 1897, by Sheriff Oliver.

Clinton St. Clair was the fourth and last to suffer the death penalty. On the night of January 20, 1910, he brutally murdered Mrs. Mary McIntosh, an aged widow, who resided at 1239 West State street, Rockford. Robbery was the motive, and St. Clair killed the defenseless woman when money was refused. He first professed innocence, then made a full confession, which he later repudiated and his final defense was insanity. State's Attorney North prosecuted the case, and the prisoner was defended by B. A. Knight and E. D. Reynolds. The trial was concluded February 19, and St. Clair was executed April 15, 1910, by Sheriff Charles Collier. Discussion of the tragedy developed a rapidly growing sentiment against the death penalty, and the daily press published only the bare facts of the execution.

CHAPTER IX.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT.

OLD MAP OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS—ORGANIZATION OF COUNTIES PRIOR TO 1835—JO DAVIESS ONE OF THE LARGEST—HISTORY OF ITS NAME—SINCE DIVIDED INTO NINE COUNTIES—WINNEBAGO NOW A PART—THE TERRITORY INCLUDED—FIRST CENSUS ENUMERATOR—ORDER FOR FIRST ELECTION—FIRST JUDGES OF ELECTION—POLITICAL ASPIRANTS—FIRST COUNTY OFFICERS ELECTED—NO AUSTRALIAN BALLOT SYSTEM—LIST OF VOTERS—COUNTY DIVIDED INTO PRECINCTS—NO COUNTY SEAT—NO PUBLIC BUILDINGS—NEGOTIATIONS FOR

COUNTY SEAT—LAW SPECIFIC CONCERNING SITE—INTERESTING CHAPTER OF LOCAL HISTORY—TOWN OF WINNEBAGO PLATTED—LOCAL ENTERPRISES STARTED—FIRST COUNTY SURVEYS—REORGANIZATION OF COUNTY—THE MILE STRIP CONTEST—FIRST TAX LEVY—TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION LAW IN FORCE—SEVEN YEARS OF COUNTY SEAT CONTROVERSY—ROCKFORD CHOSEN—FIRST PUBLIC BUILDINGS—FURTHER CONTROVERSY—COMMISSIONERS SELECT PERMANENT BUILDING SITE—WEST ROCKFORD DESIGNATED—MILE STRIP LEGISLATION—COMPLETION OF BUILDINGS—FIRST TERM OF COURT—A MOVEMENT OF SECESSION—THE GENIUS OF NATHANIEL POPE—REAL REASONS FOR WIDESPREAD MOVEMENT—HEAVY STATE DEBT—THE HISTORIC SITUATION—MASS MEETINGS—RESULT OF POPULAR VOTE—ADOPTION OF COUNTY ORGANIZATION—SHERIFFS—TREASURERS—CORONERS—SURVEYORS.

OLD MAP OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS.

In the summer and autumn of 1835 the settlers in this section began to agitate the question of local government. This matter was promptly brought to the attention of the state legislature.

The counties organized in northern Illinois prior to 1835 were much larger than they are at present. At that time Cook, LaSalle and Jo Daviess counties extended from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River. Jo Daviess was organized in 1827. It then extended east of Rock River, and included the territory now comprised in nine counties. This singular name for the county was not given by the citizens. The name designated in the original bill was Ludlow, in honor of the naval hero of that name. A member of the legislature moved to strike out the word Ludlow, and insert the name Daviess, in honor of Colonel Jo Daviess, who fell at Tippecanoe. Another member facetiously moved to amend the amendment by inserting before Daviess the word "Jo." The reason assigned was the fact that there was a member of the house by the name of Davis, and that the people might think the honor was intended for him; and that it would be indelicate for the house, by any act, to transmit his name to posterity, as a precedent. This motion prevailed; the senate concurred in the amendment, and thus the county officially received the name of Jo Daviess. This immense

tract of wild, unpopulated country extended eastward to the third principal meridian, and has been reduced in size by the organization of eight other counties.

Cook and LaSalle counties were organized in 1831. It was the evident intention at that time to subdivide these counties at a later day, to meet the demands of an increased population. A map of Illinois, printed in 1835, owned by the late Hon. Ephraim Sumner, and now in possession of his son, Hon. E. B. Sumner, represents Cook County with territory attached on the north for judicial purposes. LaSalle has northern territory annexed for the same purpose, corresponding to portions of McHenry, Kane, Winnebago and Ogle counties, and all of Boone and DeKalb, as at present organized. Jo Daviess is shown with annexed territory on the east and south. The distinction between Cook and LaSalle counties proper, and their annexed portions, appears to have been in the fact that the former were surveyed, while the latter were not. Although Jo Daviess County was organized eight years before Mr. Sumner's map was printed, the map does not even represent the county as surveyed. The conditions, however, in Jo Daviess were peculiar. The country near Galena included a mining camp, with quite a considerable population, and thus required a local government. Hence the organization of the county preceded by several years the government survey of the land.

The state legislature at that time held its sessions at Vandalia. An act, approved and in force January 16, 1836, provided for the organization of McHenry, Winnebago, Kane, Ogle and Whiteside counties, and the reorganization of Jo Daviess. Section two of the law created Winnebago County, with boundaries as follows: "Commencing at the southeast corner of township number forty-three, range number four, east of the third principal meridian, and running thence west to the said meridian; thence north along the line of said meridian, to the southeast corner of township number twenty-six, in range number eleven, east of the fourth principal meridian; thence west to the dividing line between ranges number seven and eight; thence north along said line to the northern boundary of the state; thence east along said boundary line to the northeast corner of range number four, east of the third principal



M. C. Burroughs

meridian; thence south to the place of beginning."

FORMATION OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY.

Winnebago was thus formed from the attached portions of Jo Daviess and LaSalle counties. That part of the county east of the third principal meridian was taken from LaSalle; the portion west of this meridian was detached from Jo Daviess. As at first organized, Winnebago County was almost exactly double its present size, and included all of Boone County, and the eastern two township ranges of what is now Stephenson County. Winnebago has never been enlarged or reduced from its original form on its northern or southern boundary.

No county created by this act was to be organized, and an election held, until a majority of the voters of the prospective county had addressed a petition for the same to the judge of the sixth judicial circuit, or, in his absence, to another circuit judge. The voters were also required to give sufficient proof that the proposed county contained not less than three hundred and fifty white inhabitants. This task was undertaken by Dr. Daniel H. Whitney, who had settled at Belvidere. As the first census enumerator, Dr. Whitney diligently spied out the land, and discovered the requisite number of "white inhabitants."

ORDER FOR FIRST ELECTION.

These facts were communicated to Judge Thomas H. Ford. He thereupon issued an order, dated July 15, 1836, for an election to be held at the house of Daniel S. Haight, on the first Monday in August. The ninth section of the statute had designated an earlier date and another place for this election; but inasmuch as the organization of the county depended upon a prescribed population, a subsequent section of the law necessarily referred the time and place of such election to the presiding judge of the circuit. Under the first constitution of Illinois, all elections for state and county officers were held the first Monday in August. The time of these elections was changed by the second constitution, in 1847, to the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November. Germanicus Kent, Joseph P. Griggs

and Robert J. Cross were chosen judges of election. Judge Ford's order has been framed, and is preserved in the office of Captain Lewis F. Lake, the circuit clerk, as an interesting relic of those early days.

POLITICAL ASPIRANTS.

It has been said that politics and religion are the chief concerns of men. The "iron pen of history" must record the fact that politics then had the right of way for the time. The prospective election awakened intense enthusiasm. The electors were to vote also for a member of Congress and two representatives in the state legislature. But the special interest centered in the selection of three candidates for county commissioners. Kentville and Haightville, as the West and the East side settlements were respectively called, had already become strong rivals. The Guelphs and Ghibellines, in the mediæval Florentine republic, did not more earnestly strive for supremacy. No caucus or convention was called, and the factions informally divided the honors. Simon P. Doty, who had settled in Belvidere in 1835, was the candidate for commissioner for that part of the county. Thomas B. Talcott was the northern candidate. Mr. Haight was anxious to have the third elected from this bailiwick, but he was obliged to yield this point to his West side rival, who placed William E. Dunbar in the field.

FIRST COUNTY OFFICERS ELECTED.

The election was held on Monday, August 1, 1836, in a decidedly primitive manner. Written or printed ballots had not then been introduced into Illinois. Under the old constitution, all votes were to be given *vive voce* until otherwise provided by the general assembly; and up to this time no change had been made. This method kept the interest at a high pitch, and enabled the voters to tell at any moment the relative strength of the several candidates. It is a gigantic stride from the *vive voce* vote of 1836 to the Australian ballot of today. At that time there was not a copy of the Illinois statutes in the county to direct the judges of election in the discharge of their duties. Mr. Kent, however, knew something of the election laws of Virginia and Alabama, Robert J. Cross

was familiar with those of New York and Michigan, and Mr. Griggs was acquainted with the laws of Ohio. The election, therefore, was not allowed to go by default for so slight a cause as ignorance of the laws of their adopted state. D. A. Spaulding had some acquaintance with the laws of Illinois, and he was made one of the clerks of election, and entrusted with the duty of making the poll-books. Simon P. Doty, Thomas B. Talcott and William E. Dunbar were elected county commissioners; Daniel S. Haight, sheriff; Daniel H. Whitney, recorder; Eliphalet Gregory, coroner; and D. A. Spaulding, surveyor. The results of the election for member of Congress and representatives in the General Assembly are given in a subsequent chapter devoted to this subject. There were 120 votes cast at this election. The names of the voters were as follows: David Caswell, George Caswell, David Barnes, P. P. Burnham, Thomas Crane, Thatcher Blake, Seth Scott, Joshua Fawcett, John Barrett, Jeremiah Frame, John F. Thayer, William Randall, John Welch, Joshua Cromer, John Slavins, David Blake, William Barlow, Joseph B. Baker, Daniel Fairchild, Livingston Robins, Alfred Shattuck, Alva Trask, William Smith, Ira Haskins, John Bunts, Simon P. Doty, Milton S. Mason, Timothy Caswell, Charles H. Pane, Royal Briggs, Solomon Watson, Abram Watson, Ralzimond Gardner, Mason Sherburne, John K. Towner, John G. Lockridge, John Allen, John Lovesse, A. E. Court-right, Henry Enoch, Ephraim Sumner, S. Brown, A. R. Dimmick, Samuel Hicks, H. M. Wattles, T. R. J. English, Oliver Robins, J. P. Griggs, Aaron V. Taylor, Luke Joslin, William Sumner, David D. Elliott, John Handy, Jacob Pettyjohn, Daniel S. Haight, Jacob Keyt, John Lefonton, John Kelsoe, William R. Wheeler, M. Ewing, Charles Works, Sidney Twogood, Phineas Churchill, Thomas B. Talcott, Austin Andrews, Thomas Lake, Benjamin McConnell, Benjamin DePue, Lewis Haskins, Aaron B. Davis, Joel Pike, R. M. Waller, Julius Trask, William Carey, Ephraim Wyman, P. D. Taylor, William Brayton, Israel Morrill, Harlyn Shattuck, David DeWitt, James B. Young, Abel Thurston, John Kaudler, John Adams, Milton Kilburn, Richard H. Enoch, Joseph Chadwick, Daniel Piper, John Hance, Henry Enoch, Jr., Peter Moore, Sylvester Sutton, V. B. Rexford, William G. Blair, Daniel H. Whitney, James Jackson, Isaac Adams, Isaac Harrell, E. A. Nixon, John Wood, William

Mead, Joseph Rogers, A. C. Gleason, Henry Hicks, John Brink, E. Gregory, L. C. Waller, James Thomas, G. Kent, Chauncey Mead, George Randall, W. H. Talcott, William E. Dunbar, S. A. Lee, Charles Reed, Carles Sayres, Robert J. Cross, D. A. Spaulding, Benjamin White, Jacob Enoch. The votes of two men, John Langdon and Thomas Williams, were rejected.

On Wednesday, August 3, 1836, the county commissioners-elect met in special session at the house of Daniel S. Haight, for the transaction of business necessary to complete the local government. Each commissioner administered the oath of office to the other. Lots were drawn for the terms of one year, and two and three years respectively. D. A. Spaulding was elected clerk of the county commissioners' court; and Robert J. Cross was chosen treasurer. William E. Dunbar was sent to Vandalia, the capital of the state, with the election returns. The term court might seem to imply that this body possessed judicial powers, but such was not the fact. Under the constitution of 1818, three commissioners were elected in each county for the transaction of all its business. This court performed the duties and exercised powers corresponding in a general way to those entrusted under the present law to the board of supervisors.

COUNTY DIVIDED INTO PRECINCTS.

At this first session of the court the commissioners divided the county into seven precincts, as follows: Yellow River, which included the towns of Silver Creek, Ridot, Freeport, Lancaster, and the south half of Rock River, in Stephenson County; Rock Grove, which included the north half of Rock River, all of Buck Eye, Rock Grove, and the east half of Oneco, in Stephenson County, and Laona and Howard (now Durand) in Winnebago; Peeketolika, corresponding to the towns of Seward, Lysander (now Pecatonica) and Burritt; Kishwaukee, now the townships of Cherry Valley, New Milford, and part of Rockford Township; Rockford, which included the present townships of Winnebago, Guilford, the larger part of Rockford, and the south half of Owen and Harlem; Rock River, including the townships of Shirland, Harrison, Rockton, Roscoe, north half of Owen and Harlem, and Man-

chester in Boone County; Belvidere, which included all of Boone County except Manchester Township. This precinct contained 252 square miles; yet at the first presidential election in 1836, it could poll only twenty-three votes. Rock River Precinct was 24 miles in length, and from 6 to 12 in width, and included six townships. At the presidential election previously mentioned this immense territory could poll but twenty votes. The number of precincts was subsequently increased to ten.

COMPLETING COUNTY ORGANIZATION.

At this session of the court an order was issued, which fixed August 27 as the time of holding an election in each precinct, for justices of the peace and constables. In only three of these precincts, however, were elections held on that day. In Belvidere John K. Towner and John S. King were elected justices of the peace, and Abel Thurston and Mason Sherburne, constables. In Rock River, Sylvester Talcott and Robert J. Cross were elected justices of the peace, and John P. Parsons and D. A. Blake, constables. In Peeketolika, Ephraim Sumner and Isaac Hance were chosen justices, and William Sumner and Thomas Hance, constables. These justices were the first judicial officers in the county. A second election for the four remaining precincts was ordered to be held October 14, 1836. Upon the election of these officers at this time the county organization was completed. There was as yet no county seat. The act to establish the county, however, had provided that until public buildings should be erected for the purpose, the courts should be held at the house of Daniel S. Haight or Germanicus Kent, as the county commissioners should direct. The first claims against the county were presented at this session. Germanicus Kent, Robert J. Cross and J. P. Griggs, as judges of election, and D. A. Spaulding and S. A. Lee, as clerks, were allowed one dollar each. D. A. Spaulding was allowed fifty cents for stationery furnished for poll-books.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR A COUNTY SEAT.

The law establishing Winnebago County designated Robert Stephens and Rezin Zarley, of Cook County, and John Phelps, of Jo Daviess,

as commissioners, to locate the permanent seat of justice. These commissioners, or a majority of them, were authorized to meet on the first Monday in May, 1836, or as soon thereafter as may be, at the house of Daniel S. Haight, for the discharge of their duty. John Phelps never made his appearance. The other two commissioners met July 14th, at the place specified by law, for the selection of a site for the county buildings. At the county commissioners' court on Thursday, August 4, 1836, the report of the special commissioners was presented. The reader will avoid confusion by noting the distinction between the three county commissioners elected by popular vote, and the special commissioners designated by the statute to locate the county seat. The latter reported that on the 14th day of July they had met at the house of Daniel S. Haight, and that two days later they had selected a site on lands owned by Nicholas Boilvin & Co., on condition that the proprietors should execute a warranty deed to the county of thirty acres of land, so long as it should remain the seat of justice. On the same day Charles Reed presented to the county commissioners a deed of twelve blocks, containing two and one-half acres each, situated about two miles up the river from the ferry crossing. The law was very specific concerning the location of a site. It provided that if the site chosen should be the property of individuals, instead of government land, the owners thereof should make a deed in fee simple of not less than twenty acres of said tract to the county; or in lieu thereof they should pay the county \$3,000, to be used in the erection of county buildings. Mr. Reed may have presented his deed in good faith, but it was not accepted because it contained an objectionable clause to the effect that the county should hold the property "so long as it should remain the seat of justice." This reservation defeated his scheme.

INTERESTING CHAPTER OF LOCAL HISTORY.

This tract of land came into possession of Nicholas Boilvin about one year previously. Mr. Boilvin was at one time a government agent for the Winnebago Indians. The several transfers of this property form an interesting chapter of local history. It has already been explained that by the treaty negotiated at Prairie du Chien, August 1, 1829, between the

United States and the Winnebagoes, grants of land were made to certain descendants of this tribe. Catherine Myott, a half-breed Indian woman, was one of the two who had received two sections each. Previous to this contest over the county seat, one of these two unlocated sections had been sold to Henry Gratiot. By a deed executed August 25, 1835, Catherine Myott conveyed the other unlocated section to Nicholas Boilvin for \$800. This was the first individual conveyance of land in Winnebago County. This deed was filed for record in Cook County, September 3, 1835, and recorded by Daniel H. Whitney, recorder of Winnebago County, September 8, 1836. This instrument was the first filed for record in this county. The tract located for Mr. Boilvin, by virtue of the treaty of 1829, is the east half of section 14 and all that part of section 13 west of Rock River, in Rockford Township, and contains 637 acres. At the time Mr. Reed made the offer of his deed to the county commissioners, the property belonged to Nicholas Boilvin, of Chicago, Charles Reed, of Joliet, and Major Campbell.

As soon as the organization of the county began to be agitated, Boilvin and his associates determined to secure the location of the county seat on their site. The entire tract was platted September 14, 1836. It was known as Nicholas Boilvin's plat of the town of Winnebago, and the plat was filed for record September 17, 1836. Reed appeared as the principal manager. There were 251 blocks, and these were subdivided into 2,436 lots. The streets were uniformly 82½ feet wide, and bore north and south, east and west. The lots were 49½ feet front, and 113 feet 9 inches deep, except the lots in the water blocks, which ran back from Water street to low-water mark. The alleys were 20 feet wide. The town was christened Winnebago. Reed built a two-story house, to be used as a hotel and store, which stood until recently a few rods above Mrs. John H. Sherratt's residence. A free ferry was established; a lime-kiln and a blacksmith shop were built; and a road opened through the timber east from Winnebago, to meet the state road from Chicago to Galena, at a point on Beaver Creek. Nothing was left undone to secure the county seat; but the decision of the commissioners, like the law of the Medes and Persians, could not be changed.

Notwithstanding the fact that the special com-

missioners were given full power by the statute to locate the county seat, their selection was arbitrarily set aside by the commissioners' court. This rejection, however, was based upon a reason which would have been considered valid by any court. The question did not again come before the people until 1839. Pending the location of the county seat, the commissioners ordered that the circuit and county commissioners' courts should be held at the house of Mr. Haight.

FIRST SURVEYS IN COUNTY.

The first surveys in Winnebago County were made early in 1836. Don Alonzo Spaulding, a pioneer of 1835, was the government surveyor. One of his associates was Hon. Charles B. Farwell, of Chicago, who in 1887 succeeded the late General John A. Logau as a United States senator from Illinois. In October, 1835, Mr. Spaulding began the extension of the third principal meridian, at a timber corner about two miles north of the point where this meridian crosses the Illinois River, on the western boundary line of LaSalle County. Mr. Spaulding extended the third principal meridian north to its intersection with the Wisconsin boundary line. He then returned on the line to the corner of townships 41 and 42 north, range 1 east, and commenced the standard line running east along the southern boundary of townships 42 north, ranges 1, 2 and 3 east; and then surveyed the range and township lines in these ranges to the north line of the state. He subdivided townships 44 and 46, Rockford and Rockton, before leaving the field in January, 1836. Mr. Spaulding resumed his surveys in the spring of that year, and subdivided townships 45, range 1 east, and townships 44, 45 and 46, ranges 2 and 3 east. In 1839, 1840, and 1841, under another contract, Mr. Spaulding subdivided, in ranges 10 and 11, east of the fourth principal meridian, from the northern line of the state southward nearly thirty miles. It will thus be seen that Mr. Spaulding surveyed the range and township lines in all of Winnebago County, and the western range of Boone; and subdivided all of Winnebago except New Milford and Cherry Valley townships.

REORGANIZATION OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY.

An act of the legislature, approved March 4, 1837, provided for the reorganization of Win-

nebago County, and the creation of Stephenson and Boone. The latter was named in honor of Col. Daniel Boone, the first white settler of Kentucky. By this act Winnebago County was reduced to one-half its original size. The reader may find it necessary, in tracing the boundary lines, to have before him maps of Winnebago and Boone counties; also some acquaintance with the township survey system. Confusion may arise if it is not remembered that the townships in Winnebago County, west of the third principal meridian, are numbered from a different base-line from those east of this meridian. It must also be borne in mind that the ranges west of the third principal meridian are numbered, not as ranges *west* of the *third* principal meridian, but as *east* of the *fourth* principal meridian.

The first section of this law creates Stephenson County from the eastern portion of Jo Daviess and the western two ranges of Winnebago, as the latter had been organized the preceding year. The next section defines the new boundary of Winnebago. The line begins at the northeast corner of Stephenson, as formed by the preceding section; thence running east on the state line to the section line between sections 5 and 6, in township 46 north, range 3 east of the third principal meridian; thence south on said section line to the south boundary of township 43 north, range 3 east; thence west on said township line to the third principal meridian; thence north on said meridian to the southeast corner of township 26 north, range 11 east of the fourth principal meridian; thence west on said line to the range line between ranges 9 and 10 east of the fourth principal meridian; thence north to the place of beginning.

The third section of this law contemplated the boundaries of Boone as they now exist, except the mile-strip on the west. This law was seriously defective in defining the boundary lines. The intention of the legislature, however, was obvious, and was accepted until two years later, when the act of March 2, 1839, corrected the errors, which may have been either verbal or typographical. This act also proposed to extend Boone County on the east to include the western range of townships in McHenry County, provided the voters in those townships should so elect. As Boone never extended farther east than at present, it may

be inferred that the settlers residing on the range in question voted against annexation to Boone. The writer was once told by the late Judge Lawrence, of Boone County, that about 1846 this question was again submitted to the voters of these western McHenry townships, and that an election was carried in favor of annexation to Boone, but that this expression of the popular will was defeated by a dishonest postmaster, who changed the election returns while they were in his office to suit his purpose.

THE MILE STRIP CONTEST.

By comparing the boundary lines of Winnebago and Boone, as defined by the act of 1837, with an atlas of the counties, it will be observed that the eastern boundary of Winnebago was exactly one mile east of its present line. Thus established, Boone was only eleven miles wide. The western tier of sections, which clearly belonged to Boone under the government survey, was denied her and given to Winnebago. This manifest injustice to Boone County was a thorn in the flesh of her citizens, and finally precipitated what is known as the "mile-strip contest," the most bitter controversy of those early days. The statement is twice made in Kett's "History of Boone County" that the assignment of this mile-strip to Winnebago in 1837 was a compromise to conciliate conflicting interests in this county. These "conflicting interests" might have been the ambitions of East and West Rockford for the county buildings. The extra mile-strip may have been given to Winnebago, at the instance of clever manipulators, to increase the voting strength of that part of the county east of Rock River.

In 1843 the question of annexing this mile-strip to Boone County came before the legislature. An enabling act, approved February 28th, provided that sections 6, 7, 18, 19, 30 and 31, in townships 43, 44, 45 and 46, range 3 east, should be annexed to Boone, if the voters on the mile-strip should so elect. The strip comprised what is now the western tier of sections in the townships of Manchester, Caledonia, Belvidere and Flora, in Boone County. An election was ordered to be held at the house of Samuel Keith, in the village of Newburg, Winnebago County, May 4, 1843. The citizens of Rockford were deeply interested in the result, although the county seat had recently been re-located

on the West side, and the voters the preceding year had expressed a preference for that side. They were not, of course, allowed to vote. Only those on the mile-strip had a voice in the matter. The election called out ninety-five voters, fifty-one for annexation to Boone, and forty-four against it; a majority of seven in favor of Boone. This election added twenty-four sections of valuable land to our eastern neighbor, and thus greatly increased her taxable property. Had this election been held several years earlier, the result might have been a factor in determining the location of the county buildings. But under the circumstances, it had no such influence. Additional facts upon this point are given in a later chapter devoted to the prolonged controversy over the county seat.

In 1845 the legislature passed an act which provided as follows: "That it shall be lawful for the county commissioners' court of the county of Boone, by an order to be entered upon the records of said court, to require the recorder of the county of Winnebago, and the clerk of the commissioners' court of said county, to transcribe into a book, to be provided for that purpose by the county commissioners' court of the said county of Boone, all records of said offices relating to the following described territory of land, to-wit: Sections six, seven, eighteen, nineteen, thirty and thirty-one, in each of the townships of forty-three, forty-four, forty-five and forty-six, in range three east of the third principal meridian." This act referred to the mile-strip; and its provisions were faithfully executed. The county commissioners of Boone provided the necessary books, and required the clerk and recorder of Winnebago County to transcribe therein all records and orders relating to the strip. When completed, this transcript was regularly certified and forwarded to the proper official in Boone, and placed among the recorded proceedings of its court. This transaction completed the record of the transfer for that county.

FIRST TAX LEVY.

The first tax levy was ordered by the county commissioners' court, at its March term, 1837. One-half per cent. tax was levied on town lots, horses and mares, neat cattle above three years old, watches, carriages, and wagons, and a tax of one-fourth per cent. on stock in trade.

Through some technicality, this levy was declared illegal, and a second levy was made. At that time farm lands were not taxable. They were not placed upon the market at the land offices until two years later, and for three years thereafter they were exempt from taxation. It was not until 1842-43 that any county revenue was obtained from this source. The revenue required to meet the expense of the county until the lands became taxable was derived from assessments against personal property. Under this order the total amount levied was \$562.59½. Of this sum, \$298.29½ were assessed upon personal property; and \$264.30 on lots in the town of Winnebago, owned by non-residents. At that time the assessment was made by the county treasurer, and the taxes were collected by the sheriff. R. J. Cross, the treasurer, consumed fifteen days in making this assessment. His compensation was \$30, or \$2 per day. He was also allowed \$9.28, for receiving and disbursing the taxes when collected. This commission was two per cent. on \$464, the amount actually collected.

The revenue law of February, 1839, changed the manner of assessing and collecting taxes. The county commissioners' courts were authorized to appoint one or more assessors, not exceeding one for each justice's district; also a suitable person for collector. The Whig county convention of 1840 made nominations for county assessor and collector; but they must have been only as timely suggestions to the commissioners' court. An act of February, 1841, restricted the commissioners' courts to the appointment of one assessor for the county. From 1838 to 1844, Goodyear A. Sanford collected all the taxes of the county, which aggregated from \$237 to \$640 per annum during those years. These collections were made in part by virtue of his office of deputy sheriff, and the balance by special appointment. This system was superseded a few years later by the township organization law.

COUNTY SEAT CHOSEN.

The attempt in 1836 to locate the county seat had proven a failure. The county business had been transacted in the meantime in various places in the village. The proprietors of Winnebago did not consider the refusal of their deed of cession to the county as a finality. On



COURT HOUSE. ROCKFORD, 1878



OLD LOG CABIN, BLACK HAWK PARK, ROCKFORD



COURT HOUSE, ROCKFORD, 1844



OLD SECOND NATIONAL BANK, ROCKFORD

that very day began the famous controversy over the location of the county seat, which was continued for seven years with great spirit, and not a little bitterness on all sides. The proprietors of Winnebago had expended considerable money in their town plat, and they were anxious to have the county buildings commenced at once, and thus settle the question. A favorable decision would insure increased value and ready sale of their town lots. On the other hand, the county commissioners opposed the site of Winnebago, and placed every obstacle in the way of such location. Various propositions were made by the proprietors during this and the succeeding year to induce the commissioners to take some action that would secure them in the location that had been previously made. All these overtures were either refused or evaded. The persistent refusal of the county commissioners led to state legislation.

By an act of the General Assembly, approved March 2, 1839, the question was submitted to a popular vote. It was made the duty of the clerk of the county commissioners' court to give notice of an election to be held on the first Monday in May, 1839. The law provided that if it should appear that within one hundred of a majority of all the votes cast were in favor of the town of Winnebago, that town should remain the permanent county seat, but if any other place, after the first election, should receive a majority of all the votes given, such place should be the seat of justice. If more than two places received votes, and no one place received a majority, there should be an election held on the first Monday of each succeeding month, dropping off at each election, the place receiving the smallest number of votes, until some one place should receive a majority of all the votes polled. These provisions gave Winnebago a decided advantage; but even then the town was unable to win the prize. At the election six aspirants received votes, as follows: Rockford, 320; Winnebago, 75; Roscoe, 2; Willow Creek, 5; Pecatonica, 1; Scipio, 1. Total vote cast, 404, of which Rockford had a majority over all of 236.

The prospective village of Winnebago reached the highest point of all its greatness on the day when its ambitious claims were rejected by the county commissioners' court. Like Cardinal Wolsey, it fell like a bright exhalation in the evening. From that time it began to decline.

In April, 1844, many of the lots were sold by the sheriff to satisfy delinquent taxes; and in 1847 the plat was vacated by a special act of the legislature. Some years later Mrs. Campbell, widow of Major Campbell, by her attorney, appeared in Rockford, and made a claim for dower interest, on the ground that when her husband took the benefit of the bankrupt law, he assigned his interest in the Winnebago village property without her consent. Some were intimidated into paying these claims; and others successfully contested them.

Charles Reed was an excellent judge of land, and traveled from Fox River to Apple River, selecting and making claims. Mr. Reed was a native of Virginia. He served in the war of 1812, and was taken prisoner at Detroit, when Hull surrendered. He again enlisted, and was in the battle of the Thames, when Tecumseh was killed. Mr. Reed first settled in Illinois at Joliet; was one of the commissioners to locate the county seat of Ogle County in 1836 and was influential in securing the passage of the act for the organization of Winnebago County. From Winnebago village he removed to Rockton, where he died August 26, 1863, at the age of seventy-nine years. Mr. Reed was highly esteemed as a citizen, neighbor and friend.

FIRST PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

In pursuance of the popular vote in favor of Rockford, the county commissioners, on June 8, 1839, selected the public square on the east side of the river as the site for the courthouse. Anson Barnum and Daniel S. Haight were authorized to accept stone and other building material. A large quantity of brick and lumber was contributed by the citizens. This material remained on the public square for a long time, because the county had no money to continue the work. At a special session held June 17, the court selected the southeast corner of block 9 as a site for a jail. This is the site now occupied by the Rockford Gas Light and Coke Company. No jail, however, was built upon that location.

At the session of September 28, 1841, a proposition was submitted to the commissioners' court, to furnish a suitable jail and quarters for the county offices in West Rockford until permanent buildings could be constructed. This proposal was signed by Messrs. George Haskell,

Charles I. Horsman, Abiram Morgan, John W. Taylor, David D. Alling, Nathaniel Loomis, Ephraim Wyman, Horatio Nelson, Derastus Harper and Isaiah Lyon. Upon executing a bond in the penal sum of \$1,000 this proposition was accepted. On December 11, 1841, these gentlemen reported to the commissioners' court that the building for the county offices was ready for use, and the same was accepted by the court. This was a frame structure on the southwest corner of Main and Chestnut streets, opposite the Hotel Nelson. This building was occupied by the court until a courthouse was built, and about 1898 was torn down to make room for a brick block. The donors, at this December session, were given an extension of five months to complete the jail. This was a log structure, about 12 feet square, with plank door, and window barred with irons set into the logs above and below. It stood east of the present courthouse, in the same block. Whenever a desperate character was confined therein it was necessary to station a guard. Previous to the erection of this primitive prison, the nearest jail was at Galena. When I. N. Cunningham was sheriff, he owned a substantially built house a short distance from town, and his brother William once prevented a prisoner from escaping at night by fastening one end of a chain to his ankle and the other to the ankle of the prisoner, and both were secured to the strong puncheon floor. The old log jail did duty after a fashion until the brick jail was completed.

About this time a controversy arose concerning the precise meaning of the statute under which the election of May, 1839, had been held. That portion of the third section of the law enclosed in parentheses was ambiguous. The point at issue was whether the law actually authorized an election to select a seat of justice, or merely to decide the general question of removal. On May 10, 1842, the commissioners' court requested the bar of the city to submit opinions in writing concerning the legal effect of the popular vote. Opinions were prepared by Anson S. Miller, Francis Burnap, Thomas D. Robertson, James M. Wight and Jason Marsh. Mr. Miller's opinion was quite elaborate. The attorneys were unanimous in the opinion that the county seat had been changed from Winnebago to Rockford, in accordance with the evident intent of the law.

At the session of July, 1842, the commissioners' court authorized the judges of election in the several precincts to take the sense of the voters at the August election on the question whether the county buildings should be permanently located in East or West Rockford. Several precincts did not vote on the question; but the general result was favorable to the West side, inasmuch as the temporary location of the county offices on that side had already given it a degree of prestige. This vote had no legal effect, however, because the law had given the commissioners' court full power in the premises, but it did have a certain persuasive influence.

PERMANENT BUILDING SITE SELECTED.

In April, 1843, Daniel S. Haight, E. H. Potter, Hollis H. Holmes, Laomi Peake, Daniel Howell and John A. Brown, of the East side, submitted a proposition to the county commissioners to build a courthouse and jail, to cost \$4,000. This proposal was considered, but complications prevented its acceptance. A few days later, April 22d, citizens of West Rockford made a similar proposition. On condition that the commissioners select the site on the West side, the citizens agreed to erect such buildings as the county commissioners should direct, and according to such plan and finish as the commissioners should furnish for a courthouse, county offices and jail, the said buildings to be commenced before the first day of June next, and the jail to be finished before the first day of January, 1844. The remainder of the said buildings were to be finished by the first day of November, 1844. The donors were to perfect and convey to the county a good title to the land on which the said buildings should stand, to the amount of two and a half acres. This proposition was signed by George Haskell, Charles I. Horsman, H. W. Loomis, M. Burner, Charles Hall, Thomas D. Robertson, George W. Dewey, David D. Alling, H. R. Maynard, Alden Thomas, S. Skinner, George Barrows, John Fisher, Derastus Harper, Daniel Dow. Nothing had been done on the East side toward erecting county buildings with the material which had been contributed; and the proposition from the West side citizens was accepted, with five conditions. These were: first, that security be given to the acceptance of the com-

missioners or any two of them, in term time or vacation within twenty days; second, that the security be a bond for \$20,000, and the buildings be worth not less than \$6,000; third, that said bond be placed in the hands of the clerk of the court within three days from its acceptance; fourth, that the subscribers to the proposition, or a majority of them, enter into a contract in writing within twenty days to erect the buildings as offered in their proposition; fifth, that the contract be placed in the hands of the clerk of the court within three days from its approval. The commissioners ordered that block 25 in West Rockford be the site of the buildings.

Thus closed a contest which had continued for seven years. An opinion prevails to this day that the cession of the mile-strip to Boone County insured the location of the county buildings on the west side of the river; and that the voters on the strip, if they had remained in this county, would have held the balance of power, which would have been exercised in the election of two commissioners from the east side of the river. The official records are clearly against this tradition. The county seat was permanently located in April, 1843; whereas, the election on the mile-strip did not occur until the following month.

It is quite certain, however, that the cession of the mile-strip had been regarded with favor for years by the citizens of the western part of the county. The citizens on the strip petitioned the legislature to be annexed to Boone; and as early as December 24, 1840, a bill was introduced in the senate, for a change in the boundary line of Boone County. The bill came before the house January 13, 1841; was subsequently amended and referred to a select committee, but was lost. Had it passed that session, it would doubtless have had its influence in the contest over the county seat. But the bill did not become a law until two years later. In the meantime the question had been settled in a different manner.

COMPLETION OF BUILDINGS.

The brick jail was completed and occupied January 1, 1844. The courthouse was finished in July of the same year, and was accepted by the county commissioners. Derastus Harper and John Beattie were the architects. It was

one story, about 56 feet long, 35 feet in width, and 17 feet high. The court room was 54 by 33 feet; 9 feet in the rear of the bench was partitioned off into jury rooms. Two rows of slips made in the style of those erected in the churches, filled the room outside the bar, and accommodated 300 persons. The entire edifice, including the pediment and four fluted columns in front, was built in the Grecian Doric order of architecture. The public square, jail and courthouse were furnished by the citizens of West Rockford without the outlay of a dollar by the county. The stone building in which the county records were kept was built in 1851. All these buildings have been removed from the square.

The first term of court held in the new building was in August, 1844. The presiding judge was Thomas C. Brown; James Mitchell, clerk; G. A. Sanford, sheriff. Many bright stars in the legal firmament of that day practiced in Winnebago County. Belvidere, Freeport, Galena and Chicago sent their best talent. The famous "Mat." Carpenter, of Wisconsin, came to Rockford on professional business half a century ago.

A MOVEMENT OF SECESSION.

Seventy-five years ago Winnebago County figured prominently in a movement of secession from Illinois, for the purpose of annexation to Wisconsin. This agitation covered the entire period between the admission of Illinois in 1818, and the admission of Wisconsin thirty years later. The story forms one of the most interesting chapters in the history of the commonwealth. The final adjustment is a perpetual witness to the prophetic genius of Nathaniel Pope, the territorial representative of Illinois in Congress. In the light of subsequent history, it was nothing less than genius that enabled this man, alone and unchallenged, to add fifty miles to the northern boundary of Illinois; and thus make her, with her commercial metropolis on the lake front, the keystone in the magnificent arch of great western states. As a statesman and patriot, Nathaniel Pope is worthy to be placed at the head of the illustrious column which includes Lincoln, Douglas, Grant, Yates and Logan.

This movement was widespread, and the feeling at times was intense, and even bitter. The

war cry of "fifty-four forty or fight" did not more thoroughly arouse the enthusiastic Democracy over the Oregon boundary line than did this inter-state controversy enkindle the sectional prejudices of the settlers in the disputed territory. The village of Rockford played quite a part in this struggle. There was brought to light in this city a few years ago a copy of the official proceedings of a mass meeting held in Rockford July 6, 1840. This convention was composed of delegates from the northern fourteen counties of the state. Its purpose was secession from Illinois and annexation to the proposed new state of Wisconsin. History has never fully explained the causes of this movement. Tradition alone has interpreted its true animus. The apparent motive was a restoration of the boundary line as originally established between the two states that might be formed of the territory north of an east-and-west line running through the southerly bend of Lake Michigan. This line, it was claimed, had been arbitrarily and unfairly extended fifty miles north when Illinois became a state.

The real reasons for this movement were two. First, the settlers in the northern and the southern portions of the state had little or no interest in common. The northern portion was settled principally by people who had come from New England and New York. They were industrious, thrifty and progressive. They built towns and cities as by magic. The southern part of Illinois was settled by emigrants from the slave-holding states. They were generally poor, as the well-to-do people did not emigrate in those days from the South. This class came into southern Illinois from slave-holding states to escape the limitations of their former poverty. Between the people of the southern and the northern portions of the state was a great gulf fixed. Each misunderstood the other. The Illinois and Michigan canal was opposed by the people of southern Illinois for fear it would flood the state with Yankees. This conflict of interest and opinion was a continuation of the struggle between the civilization of Plymouth and Jamestown. The Puritan and the cavalier had entered the western arena, where a few years later Lincoln and Douglas fought the historic battle of the century.

The second reason for this sectional divorcement was the desire of the northern people to

escape the burden of the enormous state debt, which had been created by the gigantic scheme of internal improvements. In 1840, during Governor Carlin's administration, the total debt of the state, principal and interest, was \$14,666,562.42. The treasury was bankrupt; the revenue was insufficient; the people were not able to pay high taxes, and the state had borrowed itself out of credit. The state never repudiated its debt, but it simply could not pay it at that time. Moreover, the state had little to show for this vast expenditure. Southern Illinois dominated the state, and the people in the sparsely settled northern counties were not responsible for the creation of the state debt.

THE HISTORIC SITUATION.

Such was the condition of affairs when the mass convention was held in Rockford in the summer of 1840. In order to more fully understand the historic situation at that time, it will be necessary to briefly refer to the document which gave a plausible pretext to the separatist movement. This was the ordinance for the government of the Northwest Territory, adopted in 1787. This ordinance provided for the division of this vast area for territorial purposes, which of course had no bearing upon the present matter. It further provided that not more than two states should be formed from the territory north of an east-and-west line running through the southerly bend of Lake Michigan.

In 1818 Illinois Territory petitioned Congress for admission into the Union on an equality with the original states. The petition defined the northern boundary of the state in accordance with the provisions of the ordinance of 1787. When the petition came before Congress, Mr. Pope was instructed by the committee to report a bill in pursuance of the petition. Before the bill became a law it was amended by the extension of the boundary line from the southerly bend of Lake Michigan to 42 deg. 30 min. Thus was added to Illinois a territory fifty miles from north to south, which now includes the northern fourteen counties of the state. These important and radical changes were proposed and carried through both houses of Congress by Mr. Pope, entirely on his own personal responsibility. The territorial legislature had not petitioned for them, but the great and lasting advantage was so apparent that



Frank H. Conrad

the action of Mr. Pope received the unqualified endorsement of the people.

When Wisconsin began to aspire to statehood, it was upon the language of the ordinance of 1787, above quoted, which was declared a compact to remain forever unalterable, that our northern neighbor based her claim to the territory north of the original line. This question of boundary became an issue in local politics, and it was not until 1848, when Wisconsin became a state, that all hope of the restoration of the original line was abandoned.

MASS MEETINGS.

In accordance with this widespread movement, which is said to have begun at Galena, a mass meeting was held at the Rockford House, in Rockford, July 6, 1840. One hundred and twenty delegates, who represented the entire territory in dispute, were in attendance. Dr. Goodhue was chosen chairman.

One committee was appointed to prepare an address to the people of the disputed territory. A second committee was instructed to report resolutions declaratory of the right of Wisconsin to the territory in dispute. The preamble declared that it was the general if not the universal belief of the residents of the tract of territory in dispute, that the same by right and by law is a part of the Territory of Wisconsin; and that their interests would be advanced by the restoration of the original line, as defined by the ordinance of 1787.

The resolutions declared first, that it was the opinion of the meeting that the intention of the framers of the ordinance of 1787 for the government of the Northwest Territory, was that if Congress formed one or two states north of the east-and-west line above mentioned, that the states south of the line should not extend north and beyond it; second, that Congress, in thus extending the northern boundary of Illinois, transcended its power and violated the provisions of the ordinance. It was also resolved that if the governor of Wisconsin Territory should issue a proclamation for an election of delegates to a convention for the formation of a state government, under the resolutions relating to the southern boundary, approved January 13, 1840, the citizens of the territory in dispute should elect delegates to the convention, according to the ratio fixed by the reso-

lution. The sixth resolution provided that a central committee of five be appointed to carry into effect the resolutions of the convention, and to inform the executive of Wisconsin of the status of public opinion. It was finally resolved that a copy of the proceedings of the convention should be signed by the president and secretary and forwarded to the governor of the Territory of Wisconsin.

Other boundary conventions were held in various parts of the district. A convention at Oregon City, January 22, 1842, adopted resolutions similar to those approved at Rockford eighteen months earlier. The delegates even went to the point of declaring that the ordinance of 1787 should not be changed without the consent of the people of the original states, and of the Northwest Territory. A meeting was held in Galena, March 18, 1842, of which Charles S. Hempstead was president. Strong resolutions were adopted. One declared that the annexation of the district to Illinois was an unlawful, arbitrary proceeding, and a dangerous precedent.

RESULT OF POPULAR VOTE.

In June, 1842, the commissioners' court of Winnebago County submitted this question to a popular vote of the county at the August election. The returns were as follows: For annexation to Wisconsin, 971; opposed to annexation, 6.

This prolonged agitation accomplished no result. The movement suddenly lost its momentum and became a spent force. The essential principle involved in the resolutions that were adopted at Oregon City was whether the Congress of the United States under the constitution, had no power to amend a prior act of confederated states. In view of the subsequent evolution of the federal idea, under the splendid leadership of Webster and Marshall, it seems surprising that such a preposterous claim should have been seriously considered.

The beneficent results arising from the policy of Nathaniel Pope and the failure of the separatists are incalculable. No reflections are cast upon those who desired separation. They acted from worthy motives, but they could not foresee the future. Time has shown their error to have been that of judgment rather than of heart. The people of Wisconsin, however, have

never been fully reconciled to the situation. From the standpoint of state pride, it may be said that in the collapse of the movement was the magnificent city of Chicago, "the queen of the north and the west," saved to Illinois. The wealthiest, most populous and progressive counties were preserved to our commonwealth, which has become the pride of the nation. In 1840 the people of northern Illinois were more in sympathy with the ideas and institutions of Wisconsin, because they had a common origin in the east. With the lapse of time the two portions of the state have been wrought into a bond of indissoluble unity. Moreover, there were national reasons why Illinois should not be dismembered. In all previous confederated republics there had been danger of dissolution. Illinois, by reason of her geographical position, is a pivotal state. With a port on the chain of lakes, her western shore bounded by the Father of Waters, and her southern and eastern borders drained by the Wabash and the Ohio, the commercial power of the Prairie State extends southward to the gulf, and eastward to the sea. Mr. Pope foresaw that none of the states in the west could venture a dissolution of the Union without the assistance of a state which nature had planned should be large and powerful.

Nathaniel Pope belongs to the roll of forgotten statesmen. The sphere of his activity was limited. He did not in his day receive the recognition to which he was entitled. He builded wiser than he knew. He foresaw possibilities which his generation did not fully comprehend. In the clear light of today, that shines from the grandeur of the Prairie State, it must be said that Nathaniel Pope was a constructive statesman of the first rank.

ADOPTION OF TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION.

The constitution of 1848 provided for a county court, as the successor of the county commissioners' court, and authorized the legislature to enact a general law, providing for township organization, under which counties might organize, by a majority vote of the people. In the early days of Illinois as a state, southern ideas and institutions dominated the commonwealth. The commissioners' form of local government originated in this country with the Virginia planters. The system of township organization

had its origin in New England. But the root of this form of local government may be traced to the districting of England into tithings by King Alfred, in the ninth century, to curb the widespread social disorders which disturbed his realm. The change under the second constitution of Illinois was due to the influence of New England settlers in the northern portion of the state. The Illinois township system, however, is not closely modeled after that of the New England states. The legislature, by two acts approved February 12, 1849, supplemented these two constitutional provisions by the necessary legislation. The first created a county court, the judges of which should be elected on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1849, and quadrennially thereafter, and assume their duties on the first Monday in December following. There were also to be elected at the same times and places, two associate justices of the peace, who, with the judge, constituted the county court, which succeeded the county commissioners' court.

This county court was short-lived, so far as Winnebago County was concerned. The second statute, also approved February 12, 1849, provided that at the next general election in November, 1849, the voters in any county might vote for or against township organization. Consequently, at the same general election in November, 1849, the voters of this county elected both a county court to succeed the county commissioners' court, and voted to adopt township organization. Section four of the new law provided that if the voters so elected, the township organization should be in force the first Tuesday in April, 1850. At that time the associate justices ceased to be members of the county court, under the provision of section six of article seven of the new constitution. The associate justices, however, were elected for several years as justices of the peace for the county at large. It may seem, at first thought, that two such laws would not have been passed by the legislature, as the second might nullify the first. But it will be observed that the township organization system did not become operative unless the people so voted; hence there was a possibility that they would not conflict. From 1849 to 1855 the clerk of the county court was also clerk of the board of supervisors, under section eight of article sixteen of the township organization law. By

virtue of an act of February 9, 1855, the clerk of the county court of Winnebago County ceased to be ex officio clerk of the board of supervisors, after the first Monday of the following April. Under this law Duncan Ferguson was appointed; and a separate clerk of the board was thereafter biennially appointed, until the law was repealed.

SHERIFFS.

The sheriffs of Winnebago County have been: Daniel S. Haight, 1836-1838; Isaac N. Cunningham, 1838-1842; G. A. Sanford, 1842-1844; Anson Barnum, 1844-1846; Hiram R. Maynard, 1846-1850; Peter B. Johnson, 1850-1852; King H. Milliken, 1852-1854; John F. Taylor, 1854-1856; Samuel I. Church, 1856-1858; King H. Milliken, 1858-1860; Morris J. Upright, 1860-1862; Hiram J. Sawyer, 1862-1864; James E. Dennis, 1864-1866; William Courtright, 1866-1868; Patrick Flynn, 1868-1872; Frank F. Peats, 1872-1880; Amasa Hutchins, 1880-1886; J. M. Atkinson, 1886-1890; A. J. Burbank, 1890-1894; Robert Oliver, 1894-1898; W. E. Sawyer, 1898-1902; Alex Collier, 1902-1906; Charles Collier, 1906-1910; H. W. Young, 1910-1914; Guy Ginders, 1914 to date.

TREASURERS.

The following citizens have served Winnebago County as treasurer: Robert J. Cross, 1836-1839; Samuel D. Preston, 1839-1843; Ephraim Wyman, 1843-1846; Hollis H. Holmes, 1846-1849; Duncan Ferguson, 1849-1855; Hiram R. Enoch, 1855-1863; Charles Works, 1863-1867; J. E. Richardson, 1867-1870 (Mr. Richardson died while in office, and his brother-in-law, J. G. Lyford, filled the unexpired term); Thomas W. Cole, 1871-1877; O. H. Partch, 1877-1886; Roger Brown, 1886-1890; John Beatson, 1890-1894; A. A. Snyder, 1894-1898; Thomas Gilmore, 1898-1902; James H. Carson, 1902-1906; C. J. Holmquist, 1906-1910; F. A. Carson, 1910, 1914; C. H. Kjellquist, 1914 to date.

CORONERS.

Eliphalet Gregory, 1836-1838; Cyrus C. Jenks, 1838-1840; Alonzo Platt, 1840-1841; Harvey Gregory, 1841-1842; Nathaniel Loomis, 1842-1844; Artemas Hitchcock, 1844-1850; Isaiah

Lyon, 1850-1852; A. A. Chamberlain, 1852-1856; H. T. Mesler, 1856-1858; John Fisher, 1858-1860; Giles C. Hard, 1860-1861; John Fisher, 1861-1865; Isaiah Lyon, 1865-1866; Halsey G. Clark, 1866-1876; Dr. J. D. Burns, 1876-1878; R. H. Ross, 1878-1880; James Dame, 1880-1882; W. C. McCaughey, 1882-1888; N. S. Aagesen, 1888-1896; Frank M. Marsh, 1896-1908; Martin H. McAllister, 1908 to date.

SURVEYORS.

Don Alonzo Spalding, 1838-1839; John Emerson, 1839-1841; Duncan Ferguson, 1841-1855; T. J. L. Remington, 1855-1888; D. W. Mead, 1888-1892; E. Baldwin, 1892-1904; Th. L. Leon de Tissandier, 1904-1912; D. E. Andrus, 1912-1914; J. H. Sabin, 1914 to date.

For other county officers see Chapters XII and XIV.

CHAPTER X.

A QUARTER CENTURY OF DEVELOPMENT,
1835-1860.

ROCKFORD APPROPRIATELY NAMED—LAYING OUT OF STREETS—EARLY BUSINESS INTERESTS—TOWN INCORPORATED—SOCIAL STANDARDS—WASHINGTON IRVING'S KINDRED HERE—ONLY SLAVE IN COUNTY—INTERESTING BIOGRAPHIES—EARLY PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS—FIRST MILITARY COMPANY—CENSUS REPORT IN 1860—CHOLERA IN 1853-4—BAYARD TAYLOR'S BEAUTIFUL TRIBUTE TO ROCKFORD.

AN APPROPRIATE NAME.

Germanicus Kent was, in a sense, the first proprietor of Rockford. He gave it the name of Midway. This name, which is said to have been proposed by Mrs. Kent, was suggested by the fact that the settlement was about halfway from Chicago to Galena. "Midway, Rock River,

Jo Daviess county, Illinois, June 17, 1835," is the name and date Mr. Kent gives in a letter to a friend. The law of 1836 which established the state road, referred to "Midway at the ford on Rock river." A letter written by Mr. Kent in the autumn of 1834, addressed to J. B. Martyn, of Alabama, directed that gentleman to "Midway" as follows: "At Galena call on my brother. From Galena go directly east until you come to and cross Apple river, thence turn in a southeasterly course to Plum river, and from there to Cherry Grove. There leave some timber on your left, and a small grove on your right [later known as Twelve-Mile Grove] and then keep on until you strike Rock river, from which a blind path will lead you to Midway." These instructions were about as definite as Launcelot's direction to the Jew's house, in the *Merchant of Venice*: "Turn up on your right hand at the next turning, but at the next turning of all, on your left; marry, at the very next turning, turn of no hand, but turn down indirectly to the Jew's house." Nevertheless, Mr. Martyn found Midway.

Under date of October 17, 1837, Mr. Kent writes a letter from Rockford. The settlement was therefore known as Midway from one to three years. It is said "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet;" but it is doubtful if the ambitious young community would have become the commercial and educational center of the Rock river valley, handicapped by the primitive name of Midway. The original proprietors early came to this conclusion. Authorities differ as to the origin of the name Rockford. One writer says the place was known as Rockford by the Indians; and that this name was suggested to them by nature. Upon the site of the present dam was a solid rock bottom, where the water was usually so shallow as to afford easy crossing with their ponies. Hence it was called by them the *rock-ford*.

John H. Thurston gives a somewhat different, though not necessarily a conflicting version. He says Daniel S. Haight, Germanicus Kent, William H. Gilman of Belvidere, John P. Chapin and Ebenezer Peck of Chicago, and Stephen Edgel, later of St. Louis, met at Dr. Goodhue's office, on Lake street, in Chicago, to name the claim, or mill privilege, which they hoped at some time would become a town. "Midway," though an appropriate name, was not in favor. Various names were suggested and rejected, un-

til Dr. Goodhue said: "Why not call it Rockford, from the splendid rock-bottom ford on the river there?" The suggestion seemed an inspiration, and was at once unanimously adopted; and from that day to this, Dr. Goodhue has been given the credit of the present name. The date of this christening is uncertain. Mr. Thurston says it occurred in the summer of 1835; but the statute of January, 1836, still designated it Midway. News traveled slowly, however, in those days; and possibly the solons at Vandalia had not learned of the change.

The term "Forest City," as applied to Rockford, had its origin in an article written by a correspondent of the New York Tribune, which was published in the autumn of 1853. The preservation of the native forest trees made the name appropriate, and Rockford is so designated to this day.

D. A. Spaulding, surveyor, was not responsible for the fact that the streets of East and West Rockford do not squarely meet at the river. He stated that in January, 1836, Mr. Kent requested him to lay out two or three streets, parallel with the river, on the West side, as the beginning of his town. There were probably ten or twelve blocks, the corners of which were defined by stakes. This survey of blocks and streets was a personal transaction with Mr. Kent, and entirely separate from Mr. Spaulding's survey of townships and ranges for the government. In the spring of 1836 several persons interested in the east side of the river wished Mr. Spaulding to lay out the beginning of their town. After making a preliminary examination, he found that he could not make the front street or the street next the river, on the most suitable ground and have the cross streets correspond with the streets on the west side of the river. He then examined his work on the West side, and found that it could be changed so as to conform to the East side. At that time no improvements had been made which would have been affected by the prospective change; and a slight modification would have made the streets on the two sides of the river harmonize, as though there had been no river dividing the town. Mr. Spaulding explained to Mr. Kent the advantage of such harmony to both sides of the river; but Mr. Kent was unwilling to comply with his suggestions, and forty-five years later Mr. Spaulding made this explanation to relieve himself of the responsibility for the city streets as they now touch



Engraved by J. H. Smith

J. E. Loy M. D.

the river. The rivalry between the two sides of the river could not be compromised. Nature provided that the river should be a bond of union in which there is strength; but the two factions made it a cause of division. Both Kent and Haight, however, foresaw that the prosperity of Rockford would largely depend upon the development of the natural water-power.

EARLY BUSINESS INTERESTS.

The first frame building in Rockford was erected in 1836, by Sidney Twogood and Thomas Lake. It was a story-and-a-half structure, and stood on the southwest corner of State and Madison streets, and faced east. It was first occupied as a general store by Harry W. Bundy and George Goodhue. Many years later this building was removed to the lot adjoining the railroad track on the same side of the street, where it remained until a few years ago, when a stone building was erected on the site. The second frame structure was built for Daniel S. Haight, on the northeast corner of State and Madison streets, and while this building was in progress, Mr. Haight employed a force of carpenters in constructing a small frame dwelling house on lot 9 of the same block. He lived in this as soon as it was enclosed. This was the first frame house in Rockford occupied by a family. Mr. Haight had vacated his first log house for the Miller family. James B. Martyn, who came from Alabama upon Mr. Haight's solicitation, claimed to have built the first frame house in the county, in 1836, on his claim on the State road, one mile east of the intersection of State and Third streets. Mr. Martyn died at Belvidere in 1881.

The first theatrical performance was given October 29, 1838, in the old Rockford House. The manager of the company was the elder Jefferson, father of the world-renowned Joseph Jefferson. "Joe" was but a youth, and acted in "Lord Lovell," then a new play. The company was weather-bound in Rockford while en route from Chicago to Galena. The river was not passable by reason of heavy moving ice. The last time the famous impersonator of "Rip Van Winkle" was in Rockford he related this incident to a local reporter.

The first tailor in Rockford was William H. Tinker, who came from Massachusetts. He was in the village in 1836, but he did not consider the

outlook very promising and left the field. In June, 1837, Parson King Johnson, from Brandon, Vt., came to Rockford, and found Mr. Tinker's cutting board in the rear room of Bundy & Goodhue's store. Mr. Tinker returned to Rockford, and the firm of Tinker & Johnson became the first in that line in the village. The firm occupied the upper room in a building on the site of 111 South Madison street. The first shoemaker was Ezra Barnum. He was father of Anson Barnum and Mrs. James M. Wight, and grandfather of Mrs. Sherratt. Mr. Barnum came from Danbury, Conn., in the summer of 1837. The first brick was made in the autumn of 1837 by Cyrus C. Jenks, in Guilford, about three and a half miles northeast of the town. The larger portion of this brick was used for chimneys. The first brick house was a small, square structure, one story, on the southeast corner of block 18, on First street, opposite the public square. It was built in 1838, by John H. Morse. The first carpenter cannot be determined with accuracy, but it is probable that Thomas Lake and Sidney Twogood were the first skilled workmen. The first saloon was opened in 1837, by Samuel Little, an Englishman. He put up a small one-story building near 316 East State street. The first blacksmith was probably one of the men employed by Mr. Kent. The second was William Penfield. His frame building was on the northeast corner of Madison and Market streets. William P. Dennis was the first house-painter, and in 1837 he displayed his skill on Mr. Haight's first frame house. The first drug-store was opened early in the summer of 1838, by "Dr." Marshal, a Scotchman. It was on the north side of State street, about 80 feet from the river. He was once called to prescribe for Dr. Haskell, who refused to take his medicine. It proved to be seventy grains of calomel. The first bakers were Ephraim Wyman and Bethuel Houghton, who did business in 1838 as partners on South Main street. The first store was kept by John Vance, in a log cabin on South First street, opposite the city hall. He subsequently started a provision store at Winnebago, when that village seemed likely to become the county seat.

TOWN INCORPORATED.

Early in 1839 the little village aspired to the dignity of an incorporated town. The general

law of 1831 provided that "whenever the white males over the age of twenty-one years, being residents of any town in this state, containing not less than one hundred and fifty inhabitants, shall wish to become incorporated for the better regulation of their internal police," it should be lawful for them to do so. The ambition of the village was sustained by the required population. A meeting of the citizens of Rockford was held, pursuant to public notice, at the Rockford House, April 1, 1839, and it was resolved that the two villages of Rockford, east and west sides of Rock River, be incorporated into one town. Committees were appointed to ascertain the number of inhabitants within the prescribed boundaries of Rockford; to draft an act of incorporation for the town; and to confer with Mr. Brinckerhoff concerning free ferriage for the citizens of the county. These matters were satisfactorily settled, and on April 4, 1839, the town was incorporated. Dr. Goodhue, Daniel S. Haight, Samuel Little, Ephraim Wyman and Isaiah Lyon were the five trustees chosen. The statute provided that the boundaries of a town incorporated under its provisions should not exceed one mile square. The trustees restricted the limits as thus prescribed by the law. They organized by the election of Daniel S. Haight, president; Anson Barnum, clerk; John C. Kemble, attorney. Isaiah Lyon was elected collector and treasurer; Henry Thurston, assessor for the first district; John Haskell, for the second; Nathaniel Wilder for the third; S. D. Preston, for the fourth. Rockford continued its simple municipal life under this system until January, 1852. These years were quite uneventful, so far as municipal affairs were concerned. The complete records of the proceedings of the board of trustees for those twelve years are contained in a single small volume.

SOCIAL STANDARDS.

The aristocracy of a community is always founded upon what its people believe to be the chief good. Whenever the emphasis is placed upon noble family descent, the aristocracy is founded upon blood. If intellectual culture is the summum bonum, the charmed circle will be composed of artists, poets and literati. When money is considered the first object of pursuit, wealth will be the basis of aristocracy. In the social life of ancient Rome, the patricians were

the descendants of the first settlers. From that day to this aristocracy has rested in a measure upon good birth. The fact that a man is well born is accepted as a letter of credit the wide world over.

The "open sesame" to good society in the early days of Winnebago County was not noble blood, nor culture, nor wealth. If any aristocracy had developed, it rested upon common respectability. The society of Winnebago County from sixty to seventy years ago was of the highest class. It was characterized by a delightful Arcadian simplicity. The settlers were not burdened with the care of large houses, and costly furniture, and expensive wardrobes. The axiom that one might as well be out of the world as out of fashion was the invention of a later date. Meetings for benevolent purposes were held at private houses, and substantial refreshments were served which the guests could eat. Societies were then founded which still have an existence. Hospitality was of the true and genuine sort. A walk of two or three miles did not require much effort, although there were no sidewalks nor street lamps, even in Rockford. A hand lantern, brilliantly illuminated with a candle or oil lamp, and cheerful company, would dispel the most dense Egyptian darkness. Sometimes a little company would go in lumber wagons three to five miles into the country for a rehearsal of church music with a friend. The music and the social converse were alike enjoyable. Literary entertainments were occasionally given at the courthouse. Weddings were the large social gatherings, and the invitations were quite general.

A BRILLIANT WEDDING.

The wedding of Charles H. Spafford and Miss Abby Warren was solemnized March 8, 1842, at the residence of Jason Marsh, and the party was large and representative. The bride had come to Rockford in the autumn of 1841, to keep house for her brother, Edward Warren, the second postmaster of the village. Mr. Warren had built the upright part of the present residence of Dr. Lichty, on the corner of Third and Walnut streets. It was built of brick, and entirely finished in black walnut. Mrs. Spafford's father, Joseph Warren, was a son of Dr. John Warren, who was surgeon-general in Washington's army, and a brother of General Joseph Warren, who

was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill. Mrs. Spafford's father received his education at Cambridge. His death occurred when his daughter was five years of age. Mrs. Spafford was also descended from Governor John Collins, the last colonial governor of Rhode Island. She was educated in the east and upon her settlement in Rockford she became prominent in the social life of the village. Her religious sympathies had always been with the Unitarian church.

RELATED TO WASHINGTON IRVING.

There was considerable social intercourse between Rockford and the neighboring towns. The settlers of Belvidere and Rockford were of the same general class. Prof. Whitman, who was a stated supply at one time in one of the local pulpits, was widely known as a Baptist clergyman and educator. Mrs. Whitman and Mrs. R. S. Molony, also of Belvidere, were nieces of Miss Matilda Hoffman, the young lady to whom Washington Irving was engaged. She died in April, 1809, at the age of eighteen. By way of a digression it may be said that Irving slept with her Bible and prayer-book under his pillow, and they were his inseparable companions. His devotion to her memory caused him to remain a bachelor. In his private note-book he wrote: "She died in the beauty of her youth, and in my memory she will ever be young and beautiful." In St. Mark's Eve, in Bracebridge Hall, he plaintively says: "There are departed beings whom I have loved as I never again shall love in this world—who have loved me as I never again shall be loved!" Miss Hoffman died in the arms of Rebecca Gratz, a beautiful Jewess of Philadelphia. Irving visited Sir Walter Scott in 1817; and upon the strength of his vivid description of this lady, Sir Walter made her the heroine of *Ivanhoe*, Rebecca, the most romantic creation of female character that the author ever conceived.

Dr. R. S. Molony represented his district in Congress from 1851 to 1853, as a Democrat. Chicago was then included in that district. Senator and Mrs. Stephen A. Douglas were occasional guests at the Molony home, which was a social centre in the neighboring village.

Whatever may have been the differences between the East and West sides in business affairs, in the social life of the community there were no two sides of the river. A common feel-

ing of sympathy made them one people. H. H. Waldo comments in this wise upon Rockford society in the forties and fifties: "Society was free from artificial distinctions. The pioneer days were the red-letter days of my life. I would like to live them over again. There was a more fraternal feeling among men in the same line of business. Competition was not so strong. The popular amusements were instructive as well as entertaining." The larger number of social distinctions are natural rather than artificial. Friendships are formed upon the basis of social affinity, which is as truly a natural law as chemical affinity. The public ball was one of the popular amusements among a class of residents of the olden time. These balls were usually held at the Rockford House, the Washington House, or the Winnebago House. Christmas and New Year's were usually chosen for these events. Guests came from considerable distance. At a "union" ball held at the Winnebago House, January 22, 1845, managers were elected from Rockford, Whig Hill, Beloit, Roscoe, Belvidere, Cleveland, Byron, Grand Detour, Oregon, Dixon, and Charleston. Hunting and fishing were favorite pastimes. Barn-raising was seasons of social interest as well as of mutual helpfulness. Occasionally a marriage would be followed by a *charivari*, which, happily, has become obsolete in civilized communities.

ONLY SLAVE IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY.

The Northwest Territory had been consecrated to freedom by the Ordinance of 1787. This principle was reaffirmed by the first constitution of Illinois. When the state had become a member of the Union, however, and was thus given control over its own internal affairs, a desperate effort was made to introduce slavery. Only one man ever lived in Winnebago County as a slave. His name was Lewis Kent, although he was more familiarly known as Lewis Lemon. In 1829, when Germanicus Kent was a citizen of Alabama, he purchased of Orrin Lemon a colored boy named Lewis. He was born in North Carolina, and had been taken by his master to Alabama. He was about seventeen years old at the time he was sold to Mr. Kent for \$450 in cash. When Mr. Kent decided to remove north, he proposed to sell Lewis; but the colored man preferred his old master. Mr. Kent made an agreement with Lewis when they

arrived at St. Louis. It was in substance that Lewis should pay him for his freedom at the expiration of six years and seven months, the sum of \$800, with ten per cent. interest. Lewis obtained his freedom, however, in four years and four months. On the 6th of September, 1839, Mr. Kent executed and placed in the hands of Lewis a deed of manumission. At a session of the county commissioners' court held in March, 1842, Mr. Kent filed for record the instrument which officially proclaimed Lewis Kent a free man. The transcript of this document, which is on file in the county clerk's office, is the only evidence in Rockford of the existence of slavery, and that one of its victims here found freedom and a home. After his manumission Lewis obtained some land, and earned his livelihood by the cultivation of garden produce. He died in September, 1877. His funeral was attended by members of the Old Settlers' Society.

REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS—1851-1860.

Seely Perry was born at Stockbridge, Mass., in 1822, and was graduated from Union College at Schenectady in 1845. He came to Rockton in 1849, and in 1851 settled in Rockford. After teaching one year he engaged in the lumber trade, in which he continued for nearly half a century. In 1846 Mr. Perry married Elizabeth Benedict, who died in 1874. She was the mother of Lewis Seely, and Mrs. Eva Moore, of St. Louis. In 1876 Mr. Perry married Marie Thompson. They had one daughter, Mrs. Walter A. Forbes. Mr. Perry was elected mayor of Rockford in 1858 and served one term; he also served the city as alderman, member of the board of education, and a director of the public library. Mr. Perry died September 14, 1900.

Jesse Blinn, born in 1809 in Vermont, came to Rockton in 1838; in 1850 he settled in Rockford, and his family a year later. He opened the first exclusive hardware store in the city. His stock invoiced \$10,000. He subsequently became a manufacturer on the water-power, and died in 1879. Mrs. Blinn was a native of New Hampshire. She was descended from Lord James Loudon, whose estate is still preserved in Scotland. Mrs. Blinn had some autograph lines written by Robert Burns, commemorating his visit to Loudon castle. Joshua R. Giddings was entertained at Mr.

Blinn's home when he made a political address in Rockford in 1854.

Ralph Emerson was the son of Rev. Ralph Emerson, a Congregational clergyman, and a professor in Andover Theological Seminary, the oldest Congregational divinity school in the country. Another son was Professor Joseph Emerson, of Beloit. Mr. Emerson was born in Andover, Mass., in 1831, came to Rockford in 1852, and was later a partner with Jesse Blinn in the hardware business until they became interested in the water-power. The Emerson company has proved one of the most successful manufacturers in the west. This result may be attributed to Mr. Emerson's unusual executive ability. He made a generous use of his large wealth in contributions to various religious enterprises. Mr. Emerson married Adaline Talcott, a daughter of Hon. Wait Talcott. They had eight children. Two sons died in infancy, and in 1889 Ralph was killed by falling from a building during a fire on the water-power. Their daughters are Mrs. Adaline E. Thompson, Mrs. Harriet E. Hinchliff, Mrs. Mary Lathrop, Mrs. Belle E. Keith, and Mrs. Dora B. Wheeler, whose husband is a professor of biology in Harvard University. In April, 1900, Mrs. Emerson was appointed by Governor Tanner to represent Illinois as a commissioner at the Paris exposition. Mr. Emerson died August 19, 1914, and Mrs. Emerson passed away May 3, 1915, on the eighty-fourth anniversary of her husband's birth.

Hon. Wait Talcott, a son of William Talcott, was born at Hebron, Conn., October 17, 1807, and came to Rockton in the autumn of 1838. He was one of the incorporators of Beloit College and Rockford Seminary. In 1854 he came to Rockford and began his career as a manufacturer on the water-power with his brother, Sylvester. In 1854 he was elected state senator from the district comprising Winnebago, Carroll, Boone and Ogle counties. Upon the passage of the internal revenue act, President Lincoln appointed Mr. Talcott commissioner of internal revenue for the Second congressional district. This appointment was dated August 27, 1862, and Mr. Talcott served five years. His death occurred November 7, 1890.

John S. Coleman was a native of Delaware County, N. Y. In 1851 he removed with his family to Rockford and became a member of the banking firm of Robertson, Coleman & Company. He built the stone house on North Main street,



ROBERT CUTLER

now owned by William Nelson. Mr. Coleman was a trustee of Rockford Seminary and treasurer of the board, and a member of the city council. He was a man of high character. Mr. Coleman died April 6, 1864, in his fifty-eighth year.

James L. Loop was born in Steuben County, N. Y., in 1815. He settled in Belvidere in 1838, and some years later formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, Stephen A. Hurlbut, in the practice of law. He was prosecuting attorney for the northern district of Illinois in 1843-5. From 1846 to 1850 Mr. Loop was secretary of the Illinois and Michigan canal, which office he resigned. In 1852 Mr. Loop removed to Rockford and formed a law partnership with William Lathrop. In 1856 he was elected mayor of Rockford and served one term. Mr. Loop's death occurred February 8, 1865, when he was fifty years of age. The remains were taken to Belvidere for burial. By the common consent of the Rockford bar, James L. Loop possessed the finest legal ability of any man who had ever practiced in this city.

William Lathrop was a native of Genesee County, N. Y. He came to Rockford in 1851 and was a partner with James L. Loop from 1853 to 1857. In 1856 Mr. Lathrop was elected a member of the legislature, and served one term. In 1876 he succeeded Stephen A. Hurlbut as member of congress from the Fourth district, and served one term. During his long residence in Rockford Mr. Lathrop enjoyed a large and lucrative legal practice. His clientele came from the influential portion of the community. He had in some respects the finest law library in the city, and the author takes pleasure in acknowledging his obligations to Mr. Lathrop for the free use of his library and for information personally given in his first historical work. Mr. Lathrop married Adaline Potter, a daughter of E. H. Potter. Their children are Mrs. Anna Case, Miss Julia Lathrop, chief of the Children's Bureau at Washington, and Edward, Robert and William. Mr. Lathrop died November 19, 1907.

Hon. John Early was born in Middlesex County, Canada West, March 17, 1828. In 1846 he removed with his parents to Boone County, Ill., and in 1852 he settled in Rockford. He served three terms as assessor of Rockford. In 1869 he was appointed one of the first board of trustees of the reform school at Pontiac, and in

1870 was elected state senator from the Twenty-third district, composed of Winnebago, Boone, McHenry and Lake counties. After the state had been redistricted he was elected senator in 1872, from the Ninth district, which included Winnebago and Boone counties, and again in 1874, for the full term of four years. By the election of Governor Oglesby to the United States senate and Lieutenant-Governor Beveridge becoming governor, Mr. Early became acting lieutenant-governor of the state. Mr. Early died September 2, 1877. He was father of A. D. and John H. Early.

Edward F. W. Ellis was born at Milton, Me., April 15, 1819; was admitted to the bar in Ohio; in 1849 he went to California, where he was unsuccessful in commercial speculation, and resumed the practice of law; in 1851 was a member of the California legislature. Colonel Ellis came to Rockford in 1854 and became a member of the banking firm of Spafford, Clark & Ellis. Upon the outbreak of the Civil war Colonel Ellis raised a company for the Fifteenth regiment, called the Ellis Rifles. He was chosen lieutenant-colonel, but was acting colonel at the time of his death. At the battle of Shiloh he was in command of the Fifteenth, which belonged to General Hurlbut's division. On Monday morning his regiment was exposed to a terrible fire and Colonel Ellis was struck in the breast by a ball, and instantly expired. Colonel Ellis was a tall, noble-looking man, of much decision of character. The city of Rockford mourned his death with profound sorrow. Colonel Ellis' home was the historic homestead later owned by Dr. W. H. Fitch, on West State street, and now subdivided. His children were: Blanche, now Mrs. Chandler Starr; Alma Hortense, now Mrs. Fisher, of California, and Edward, deceased.

Henry P. Kimball, a native of New Hampshire, was graduated from Rochester University, came to Rockford in 1852, and taught school for some time. He had a local reputation as a horticulturist. As secretary of the Agricultural Society, Mr. Kimball achieved a unique distinction as a successful fair advertiser. Upon his invitation many of the most distinguished men of the last generation visited Rockford and made addresses. Among these were General Grant, Attorney-General Taft, Benjamin F. Butler, John A. Logan, Chief-Justice Waite, General Martindale, Wade Hampton, James R. Doolittle, Matt

Carpenter, Benjamin F. Taylor and Will Carleton. In 1875 Mr. Kimball invited Jefferson Davis to deliver an address. This invitation created such excitement that Mr. Davis withdrew his acceptance. Mr. Kimball married Miss Ellen, a daughter of Dr. George Haskell. Their sons are: Dr. Frank H., Willis M., and Carl Kimball. Mr. Kimball died May 10, 1889, when sixty years of age.

John Nelson was a native of West Gothland, Sweden, born April 5, 1830. He came to Rockford in 1852. His life was uneventful until a short time before his death, when he perfected the Nelson knitting machine, which revolutionized the knitting of hosiery. After General Grant had returned from his tour around the world, he visited Mr. Nelson's factory, and declared that he had never seen such perfect machinery for this purpose. Mr. Nelson died April 15, 1883. The Hotel Nelson is named in his honor.

A. E. Goodwin, M. D., born August 11, 1827, at Chelsea, Vt., was graduated from Berkshire Medical College, at Pittsfield, Mass., and came to Rockford in 1854. During the Civil war he was a surgeon in the Eleventh Illinois and in the One Hundred and Eighth Infantry. He was wounded at Vicksburg. Dr. Goodwin was a member of the city board of education and of the public library board. Dr. Goodwin died May 14, 1889. His only surviving child is Mrs. Robert Rew.

Chester C. Briggs was born in Dover, Vt., September 6, 1817, was graduated from Dartmouth College, and edited the Green Mountain Freeman, an anti-slavery paper. In 1853 Mr. Briggs came to Rockford and became the senior member of the banking firm of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield. He was subsequently financial manager of the Kenosha Railroad Company. In 1868 he became associated with the firm of Briggs, Mead & Skinner, in the manufacture of agricultural implements. The firm name was later changed to Briggs & Enoch. Mr. Briggs died January 24, 1892.

Robert P. Lane, M. D., was born in Bedford County, Pa., in 1818, studied medicine with an uncle in his native state, and came to Rockford in 1851. He was a leader in the organization of the Rockford waterpower company, and gave his personal attention to the construction of the dam. He was a member of the banking firm of Lane, Sanford & Company; one of the organizers

of the Second National Bank, and continuously served as its president from 1864 until 1881, when he resigned to accept the presidency of the Rockford Insurance Company. He served as a member of the library board and was senior warden of the Episcopal church for forty years. Dr. Lane died March 7, 1891.

Anthony Haines, born April 21, 1829, in Pennsylvania, came to Rockford in 1854, and formed a partnership with Elisha A. Kirk for buying and shipping grain over the Kenosha railroad. In 1880, with other gentlemen, he organized the Rockford Street Railway company, of which he was elected president and general manager. Mr. Haines, at the time of his death in 1898, was vice-president of the Manufacturers National Bank.

Charles O. Upton, born in Massachusetts in 1832, came to Rockford in 1854. Mr. Upton was prominent in the banking business of the city. He was a director of the Second National Bank twenty years and the last two years was its vice-president. In 1889 he led in the organization of the Manufacturers National Bank, and was its president ten years. Mr. Upton served the public in the city council, on the county board, and as treasurer of Rockford one term.

Carlton W. Sheldon was a native of New York, born March 14, 1828. He came to Rockford in 1852, entered the law office of Jason Marsh, and was admitted to the bar in the autumn of the same year. In 1869 he entered the employ of the Rockford Insurance Company as adjuster, and remained five years, and in 1874 he was elected secretary of the Forest City Insurance company, and held this position five years, when he resumed the practice of law. Mr. Sheldon had four children: Charles E., George, Mrs. Dora Benson, and Mrs. Ethel Montgomery. Mr. Sheldon died February 3, 1914.

Isaac Utter, a native of New York, came to Rockford in 1852, and formed a partnership with Orlando Clark, on the water-power. For twenty-one years he was associated with Levi Rhoades, in the manufacture of paper. Mr. Utter was a stockholder in the People's Bank and in the Winnebago and the Second National. He was a man of great energy, and good judgment in business affairs. Mr. Utter died May 7, 1888. He was father of Mrs. J. M. Fraley.

Alexander D. Forbes was born in Perthshire, Scotland, December 13, 1831, came to Rockford in 1854, and in partnership with his father,

Duncan Forbes, began business on the water-power. In 1864 they established the first malleable iron works west of Cincinnati. The father died in 1871. Mr. Forbes was president of the People's bank at the time of his death, which occurred March 30, 1902.

Major Elias Cosper, born in Wooster, Ohio, in 1824, came to Rockford in 1854, and entered the banking house of Robertson, Coleman & Company, as teller, and in 1857 became its cashier. Upon the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Cosper sold his interest in the bank and entered the service with Company E, Seventy-fourth regiment. After the battle of Chickamauga he was promoted to the rank of major. Upon his return to civil life, Mr. Cosper, in company with T. D. Robertson, Melancthon Starr, and John P. Manny, organized the John P. Manny Reaper Company, and was its manager. From 1874 Mr. Cosper was connected with the Rockford Tack Company, and was its secretary and treasurer. Mr. Cosper may be called the father of the public library. He spent much time in soliciting subscriptions and was a member of the board of directors for more than twenty years. Mr. Cosper had a fine private library of about 1,300 volumes. He died October 12, 1900.

John G. Penfield is a native of Vermont and settled in Rockford in 1854. Since that time he has been continuously in business as a broker and dealer in real estate and insurance. Mrs. Penfield gave the lot to the First Congregational church on which the parsonage now stands. They have three daughters: Mrs. Charles E. Sheldon, Mrs. Helen Revelle and Miss Kate.

John P. Manny was born in New York, March 8, 1823; settled at Waddam's Grove, Stephenson County, Ill., in 1842; came to Rockford in 1852, and for several years he manufactured knife sections for J. H. Manny's machines. Early in the sixties he perfected several inventions, which were handled by N. C. Thompson. After the Civil war Mr. Manny became interested in the John P. Manny Company, in which he was associated with Elias Cosper, T. D. Robertson and Melancthon Starr. This company and Mr. Thompson paid him royalties upon his inventions, and the Mississippi River was the dividing line between their respective territories. Mr. Manny's income from this source was at one time \$60,000 a year. He purchased the John S. Coleman estate on North Main street, which

was his home for many years. This property is now owned by William Nelson. While residing at Waddam's Grove Mr. Manny married Miss Eunice Hicks. George J. was their only son who attained his majority. He died in 1892, leaving one son, Dwight. Mrs. J. P. Manny died in 1864, and in 1867 Mr. Manny married a daughter of Melancthon Starr. They had four children: Mrs. Charles Sackett, John Starr Manny, Virginia and Henry Manny. Mr. Manny died November 16, 1897.

John A. Holland was born in what is now West Virginia, and died September 29, 1855, at Mount Vernon, Ohio, while he was on a visit to his father-in-law, who resided there, in company with his family. The remains were brought to Rockford for burial. Resolutions of respect were adopted by the Masonic bodies and by the bar of the city. The funeral was held at the Unitarian church on Sunday. Rev. Mr. Murray, the pastor, preached the discourse. He came to Rockford in 1845, from Wooster, Ohio, where he had practiced law. He formed a partnership with T. D. Robertson in the practice of his profession. He was the attorney for the Galena & Chicago Union railroad, and assisted the Illinois Central in securing the right of way from Chicago to Cairo. Mr. Holland was an attendant at the Unitarian church, but was not a member. He was a man of comprehensive mind, great energy and sagacity, and always operated upon a large scale. He was a leading spirit in every public enterprise. The Holland House was named in his honor. Mr. Holland was father of Hosmer P. Holland and John A. Holland. His second wife was a daughter of Dr. J. C. Goodhue.

Charles Williams was a native of Massachusetts, came to Rockford in 1855, and with his son Lewis was engaged in the hardware business. Mr. Williams was the war mayor of Rockford, serving from 1859 to 1864. His home was the residence now owned by John Barnes. Mr. Williams died in 1876. He was father of Miss Elizabeth Williams and the late Mrs. C. L. Williams.

William M. Rowland came to Rockford in 1855. He was a native of Connecticut, and when a young man he removed to Augusta, Ga., where he was interested in the Iron Steamboat Company. Soon after the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, member of Congress, informally received the promi-

nent citizens of Augusta. Mr. Rowland is said to have been the only gentleman present who did not offer congratulations to Mr. Stephens upon the repeal of that law, but assured him that it would prove a calamity to the south. Mrs. Rowland was a daughter of Rev. Henry Wight, D. D., a graduate of Harvard, and for forty years pastor of a Congregational church at Bristol, R. I. Mr. Rowland died April 29, 1869. William L. and Robert C. Rowland were sons. The former, William L. Rowland, was graduated from Yale College in the class of 1852, and removed to Rockford with his father's family in 1855. When the public library was founded in 1872, Mr. Rowland was appointed librarian, and continuously retained this position until his death, September 27, 1900. Under his able and conscientious supervision, the library grew from an exceedingly humble beginning to an institution worthy of a much larger city. The Rockford Public Library is universally conceded to be unsurpassed by any other library in the country of its size, for the use of the student and specialist. The library is Mr. Rowland's monument. An uncle of Mr. Rowland, Rev. John B. Wight, a Unitarian clergyman, was the author of the first public library law of Massachusetts, enacted in 1851. Mr. Wight was sent to the legislature from Wayland for the express purpose of securing the passage of this law.

Benjamin Blakeman, a native of Connecticut, came to Rockford in 1856, and carried on a lumber business, first on South Court, and later on South Main street. About 1871 he formed a partnership with William Dobson, in manufacturing. Mr. Blakeman died March 4, 1909. Mrs. Anna C. Vincent is the only survivor of his family.

Col. Garrett Nevius, a native of New York, came to Rockford in 1858. He was a member of the Rockford City Greys, and in 1861 he enlisted with the Eleventh Illinois Volunteers, and rose to the rank of colonel. He was killed in the charge of Ransom's brigade on the enemy's works at Vicksburg, May 22, 1863. Colonel Nevius was only twenty-six years of age. Nevius Post, G. A. R., was named in his honor.

Robert H. Tinker was born at Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, in 1837, where his father, Rev. Reuben Tinker, was a missionary, sent out by the Presbyterian church. Mr. Tinker came to Rockford in 1856. He built the Swiss cottage,

on Keut's Creek, the most picturesque home in the city. The plan of his unique library, on two floors, with winding stairway, was suggested to Mr. Tinker by his visit to Sir Walter Scott's library, more than fifty years ago. In 1870 Mr. Tiuker married the widow of John H. Manny. He was elected mayor of Rockford in 1875, and served one term. Mr. Tiuker has been interested in various manufacturing enterprises.

John H. Hall came to Rockford in 1855, and engaged in the grocery trade. He served the city as alderman, and as a member of the school board. The Hall school is named in his honor. Mr. Hall was father of Mrs. H. N. Baker, and Henry and Mrs. Helen Hortou. His death occurred in 1882.

Lucius M. West was born at Vermont Center, New York, June 19, 1820. He was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Sturtevant, of his native county. In 1858 Mr. and Mrs. West and their three sons came to Rockford. In 1862 Mr. West built the store now occupied by J. C. Peers & Son, where he carried on trade in rubber goods and boots and shoes. About 1874 he engaged in the manufacture and jobbing of an enamel carriage top dressing, which has attained a world-wide reputation. Mr. West was actively identified with the religious interests of the city. In 1875 he appointed a religious service for Woodruff's Addition, and for three years and a half conducted a mission school there, and furnished the building at his own expense. Deacon West was benevolent, and freely gave of his means to relieve the sick and needy. He died August 20, 1893.

Charles L. Williams was born in Chenango County, N. Y., October 20, 1828, was graduated from Hamilton College in 1847, in 1851 received the degree of M. A. from his alma mater, and came to Rockford in 1859, and engaged in a mercantile business. He married a daughter of Mayor Charles Williams and subsequently purchased his father-in-law's house on North Main street, which included the lots now belonging to John Barnes and Mrs. Julia P. Warren. Mr. Williams took an active interest in organizing the public library, and from 1872 to 1878 he was a member of the board of directors. Mr. Williams had four children: Mrs. C. R. Smith, of Chicago; Mrs. W. D. Williams, of Omaha; Miss Sarah, and Lewis A. Williams.

Daniel N. Hood was born at Salem, Mass., September 25, 1834, and came to Rockford in



Le. M. Dale.

1858. Prof. Hood was for many years at the head of the musical department of Rockford Seminary, and for more than ten years of this period he was organist of the Second Presbyterian church in Chicago. Prof. Hood now resides in Boston. Mrs. Frank D. Emerson is his daughter.

Gilbert Woodruff was born near Watertown, New York, November 20, 1817. He came to Rockford in 1857, and soon after he purchased and platted a farm which is now known as Woodruff's Addition. Easy terms of payment were given purchasers of lots. Mr. Woodruff was therefore in a real sense one of the builders of Rockford. He was president of the Rockford National Bank from its organization; president of the Forest City Insurance Company since its organization in 1873; and president of the Forest City Furniture factory since 1875. In 1842 Mr. Woodruff was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Fay. They had five children: Mrs. Sarah Parmele, deceased; Volney D.; Mrs. Emma Ferguson; William F.; and Mrs. R. W. Emerson, deceased. Mrs. Woodruff died in 1877. In 1879 Mr. Woodruff married Mrs. Augusta Todd. Mr. Woodruff was mayor of Rockford from 1873 to 1875. He died October 2, 1903.

Horace W. Taylor was born in Massachusetts February 1, 1823, and was graduated from Amherst in 1848. In 1857 he came to Rockford and was admitted to the bar in the autumn of the same year. For forty years Mr. Taylor was a well-known member of the legal profession of this city. In 1866 he began his work as master-in-chancery under appointment of Judge Sheldon. This position he held until his death, except an interim from 1872 to 1876. Mr. Taylor was elected a member of the legislature in 1878, and served one term. His death occurred at a sanitarium at Kenosha, August 29, 1898. There were two daughters, Mrs. J. R. Crocker, of Chicago, and Miss Ama. Mr. Taylor was the first president of the New England Society of Rockford.

Marquis L. Gorham, a native of Vermont, came to Rockford in 1857. He obtained a patent for a seeder manufactured by Clark & Utter, and for a corn cultivator made by N. C. Thompson. He was also the inventor of the first twine binder, the patent for which was sold to C. H. McCormick. Mr. Gorham died at Philadelphia in 1876, while attending the Centennial Exposition.

Norman Cornelius Thompson was born in Georgia, May 25, 1828. Mr. Thompson entered Yale College, and during his junior year his father's home and store were destroyed by fire. This misfortune changed his course in life. He came to Rockford in 1857 and built one of the largest manufacturing plants on the water-power. His immense output contributed in no small degree to the prestige of Rockford as a manufacturing city. He was a public-spirited citizen, and a generous supporter of the First Presbyterian church. Mr. Thompson died July 4, 1898. N. F. Thompson, of the Manufacturers National Bank, is a son, and Miss Norma C. Thompson is a daughter.

Thomas Butterworth was born in Manchester, England, September 6, 1827, and learned brick-laying in his native country. In his twentieth year he came to America, and landed at New Orleans. On account of yellow fever, he immediately went to Cincinnati. He entered the employ of Stacy & Company, the proprietors of the Cincinnati gas works, and in their interest he was sent to repair the works in Rockford about 1856. The latter plant was then owned by Lane, Sanford & Co. He remained in Rockford and assumed the management of the works. He also continued the business of contractor, and built Brown's Hall, the old People's Bank Building on State street, and other buildings. He subsequently sold his contracting business, and in time became the sole owner of the gas plant. In 1878 he was elected a member of the legislature. He died April 5, 1885.

Levi Rhoades was born at Hinsdale, New York, June 25, 1830. In 1847 he came to Rockford. He learned the cooper's trade, and during the war he laid the foundation of a large estate in supplying the demand for barrels. He continued in this business until 1884. Mr. Rhoades was interested in many manufacturing enterprises, and was a man of great force and executive ability. He was elected mayor of Rockford in 1876, and served one year. His death occurred November 19, 1891.

W. D. Trahern was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, March 24, 1824. In 1848 he came to Rockford, and the following year he began the manufacture of threshing-machines. In 1862 Mr. Trahern engaged in the manufacture of iron pumps. Mr. Trahern was successful in business, a considerate employer, and was highly es-

teemed. He died November 2, 1883. O. P. Trahern is a son.

About 1855 James S. Ticknor was appointed agent of the American Express Company, and held this position until 1881. He came to Rockford in 1854, preceded by his brother, D. W., who came in 1846, and taught school. The brothers were in the drug and book business a short time. J. S. Ticknor died September 18, 1899.

Among other well-known citizens who came to Rockford during this period were: Horace Brown, T. J. L. Remington, 1850; J. M. Southgate, Andrew G. Lowry, Horace Buker, 1852; William A. Knowlton Jacob Hazlett, D. A. Barnard, Samuel Ferguson, 1853; Henry Fisher, Melancthon Smith, T. W. Carrico, William and George R. Forbes, 1854; George Trufant, George H. Denuett, Wm. McKinley, 1855; David Keyt, S. F. Penfield, D. S. Hough, H. B. Hale, W. H. Smith, C. A. Shaw, 1857; John R. Porter, 1859; F. H. Manny, 1859.

Other citizens engaged in active business during the fifties were: L. H. Todd, dealer in boots and shoes; Thomas Ennett, contractor; D. Miller, boots and shoes; J. W. Seccomb, books; C. T. Sackett, painter; W. G. Johnson, painter; Robert Smith, hatter; J. B. Agard, grain buyer; Joseph Burns, dry goods; Wm. Lyman, physician; John Fraley, druggist; Israel Sovereign, hardware dealer. James B. Skinner, who conducted a blacksmith shop on North Main street, became the founder of the manufacturing firm of Skinner, Briggs & Enoch. He was father of Mrs. C. F. Henry and Mrs. A. C. Gray.

The most beautiful home in early Rockford was that of Mrs. J. H. Manny, on South Main street. The "Manny mansion" was built in 1854 by John A. Holland. The grounds had a frontage of 325 feet, and extended from the northern limit of G. N. Safford & Company's lumber yard to a point below Kent's Creek, and were fronted by a stone fence. The beauty of these grounds was due, in large measure, to John Blair, a Scottish landscape gardener, who came from Canada. He laid out the grounds, and set the standard for landscape gardening in Rockford, and in this way he left his impress on the city. Mr. Blair subsequently laid out the grounds of the Elgin Insane Asylum. About 1860 this splendid estate passed into the ownership of Mrs. J. H. Manny. The fine estate which adjoined Mrs. Manny's on the south was owned by

Rev. Lansing Porter, the first pastor of the Second Congregational church. He built the stone fence which fronted the property. Mr. Porter sold this home to Elias Cosper, and he in turn sold it to S. C. Withrow, who, in the course of a few years, completed a beautiful residence.

In 1853 the three-story, double-store brick block on the southwest corner of State and First streets, was built by Abraham I. Enoch, and his brother-in-law, Daniel Davis. Mr. Davis was a "forty-niner," and returned from California with quite an amount of ready money. In 1861, C. C. Briggs erected a substantial residence on East State street. It was built of Milwaukee brick, two stories, with cupola, and ornamented by a veranda, extending the entire length of the building on the west. Its estimated cost was \$9,000. It stands today like a deserted castle, frowning upon the pleasant modern homes that have intruded upon its former spacious grounds.

Judge Church's substantial stone residence on South Avon street was built in 1857, and was in its time one of the finest houses in the city. Gilbert Woodruff's spacious house was built by E. H. Potter. When financial reverses came to him, he disposed of the property to C. A. Shaw, father of Mrs. W. H. Worthington. The fine residence owned for many years by Mrs. David Keyt, south of the city, was built by Orlando Clark, of the firm of Clark & Utter. Allen Gibson, secretary of the Rock River Mutual Insurance Company, built the residence now owned by D. J. Stewart. Mr. Gibson expended \$20,000 in the construction of this house and later improvements.

The Rockford Forum of July 7, 1852, appeared in mourning for the death of Henry Clay, which occurred June 29th. Bells were tolled upon receipt of the intelligence. A mass meeting of the citizens was held at the courthouse to make arrangements for a public tribute to the memory of the great statesman. Anson S. Miller was chairman, and John A. Phelps secretary of the meeting. Newton Crawford, William Brown, John A. Phelps, John Edwards, Seldon M. Church, Anson S. Miller and Mayor Wheeler were appointed a committee to complete arrangements. Memorial services were held at the Baptist church July 24th. Prayer was offered by the pastor, and Ex-Governor Bebb pronounced an eloquent eulogy. It has been said man is, as he is related to other men. Henry Clay could be measured by this standard. He was the greatest

parliamentary leader of his time, with Douglas and Blaine as close seconds.

The Forum a second time appeared in mourning, for the death of Daniel Webster, which occurred in October, 1852. Although Mr. Webster's death made a profound impression throughout the country, it did not so stir the hearts of Rockford citizens as did the passing of Henry Clay. Men loved Henry Clay; they admired Daniel Webster. One moved men; the other expounded principles. The work of Webster is the more enduring.

An incident of the early Swedish immigration to Rockford reads like fiction rather than fact. The first Scandinavian settlers had come in 1852. An epidemic of cholera swept over the country in 1853-54, and Rockford was visited by the scourge. A party of Swedish immigrants arrived in Rockford in 1854, while the cholera was at its height. Some of them were cared for in the abandoned schoolhouse which stood on the East Side public square. The story is told of Mrs. John Erlander, who died October 21, 1915, that while going to a religious meeting on the first Monday after her arrival in Rockford, she saw a hearse, in which rested a cheap casket, with no mourners in attendance. Two days later she learned that the funeral was that of her father, who fell a victim to the cholera. The authorities had not notified her of her father's illness, fearing that she would hasten to the side of her stricken parent, and that she in turn would be taken ill. Her mother died from the same illness within a week, and her parents, together with thirteen other members of the band which came from Sweden, were laid to rest in one row in Cedar Bluff cemetery. No record was kept of the names or location of the graves. Some of the cholera patients were cared for in a barn which Jason Marsh had offered for their relief.

Public improvements concerned the leading citizens very early. On September 6, 1854, the city council passed an ordinance for the construction of sidewalks. On February 15, 1855, a charter was granted the Rockford Central Railroad Company, the incorporators being Rockford citizens. It was proposed to make a connection with the Illinois Central at Mendota, and run through Rockford to the Wisconsin pineries, and make a north and south line to Cairo. Piles were driven in Rock River at Rockford, for a bridge, which are now used by the Burlington company.

The route was surveyed, but no track was laid. The telegraph line was completed to Rockford in October, 1855. It was owned by the Chicago & Mississippi Company. The line connected at Freeport with the line on the Illinois Central.

BAYARD TAYLOR'S TRIBUTE.

Bayard Taylor, in a letter to the Tribune, published in the spring of 1855, paid Rockford this generous tribute: "I last wrote to you from Rockford, the most beautiful town in northern Illinois. It has the advantage of an admirable waterpower, furnished by the Rock river; of a rich, rolling prairie, which is fast being settled and farmed on all sides, of a fine building material in its quarries, of soft yellow limestone, resembling the Roman travertine; and of an unusually enterprising and intelligent population. Knowing all these advantages, I was not surprised at the evidences of growth since my first visit a year ago. People are flocking in faster than room can be furnished, and the foundations of two new hotels, on a large scale, show the requirements of the place. I was pleased to note that taste keeps pace with prosperity here, as elsewhere in the northwest. The new Unitarian church is a simple but very neat Gothic edifice, and the residences of Mr. Holland and Mr. Starr are very fine specimens of home architecture. The grounds of the former are admirably laid out; there is nothing better of the kind on the Hudson."

In 1856 a military company was organized, under the name of the Rockford City Greys, which enkindled the enthusiasm of a large number of the young men of the city. In the summer of 1858 Colonel E. E. Ellsworth was engaged as drillmaster, and under his instruction the company attained a high degree of proficiency. In September, 1858, an encampment was held on the fair grounds, which continued four days. Companies from Freeport, Elgin and Chicago were in attendance. This company continued in excellent condition until the outbreak of the Civil war, when, under the name of Rockford Zouaves, many of the company volunteered in the three months' service, under the call of the president for seventy-five thousand men; and as part of the Eleventh Illinois Volunteers, were detailed to garrison duty at Cairo and at Bird's Point.

The completion of the Atlantic cable was cele-

brated August 17, 1858, by the citizens of Rockford with great demonstrations of enthusiasm. On that day the Queen of England and the President of the United States exchanged messages. The event was celebrated in Rockford by a salute of fifty guns, fired by the City Greys, and the church bells were rung. Public exercises were held in the evening at the courthouse. Addresses were made by James L. Loop, Judge Miller, E. W. Blaisdell, Judge Church, William Hulin, and Dr. Lyman.

In 1860 the census of the city of Rockford, taken by Thos. Boyd, showed a population of 7,046, and 8,117 in the township. In 1836 there were 350 white inhabitants in the county, which included Boone and the eastern half of Stephenson. In June, 1837, after Winnebago had been reduced to its present size, the county had a population of 1,086. In 1839 the village of Rockford had 235 inhabitants, and in December, 1845, there were 1,278. In 1840 there were 2,563 in Rockford Township, and in 1855 there were 6,620.

CHAPTER XI.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS—NEW STATE CONSTITUTION.

RIVER AND HARBOR IMPROVEMENT—HISTORIC CONVENTION OF 1847—CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION AT SPRINGFIELD—NEW CONSTITUTION ADOPTED—NAVIGATION AGITATION—BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR RIVER IMPROVEMENT APPOINTED—FUND CREATED—OPERATIONS BEGUN—SHIP CANAL PROPOSED—PLAN TO CONNECT LAKE MICHIGAN WITH MISSISSIPPI RIVER—FAILURE OF THE SCHEME—SIMILAR CONVENTIONS HELD TWENTY YEARS LATER—OTHER TRANSPORTATION PLANS—RAILROAD CHARTER IN 1836—SURVEYS FOR PLANK ROAD IN 1844—INCORPORATION OF THE CHICAGO AND ROCK ISLAND PLANK ROAD COMPANY—NO PLANK ROAD EVER CONSTRUCTED UNDER THAT CHARTER—THE ONLY SLAVE EVER FOUND IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY.

RIVER AND HARBOR IMPROVEMENT.

Prior to 1846 Chicago was a port of delivery only, and belonged to the district of Detroit. The former city was made a port of entry by Act of Congress in 1846. Some improvements had been made in the harbor previous to 1839, when the work was discontinued for want of funds. A bar had formed, which extended across the entrance of the channel, so that vessels could enter only in fair weather, and even then with considerable difficulty. It was only in response to the unremitting efforts of citizens, by memorials and personal influence, during the years 1839-41, that Congress, in 1843, appropriated \$25,000 to continue the improvements. The next year \$30,000 additional were appropriated for the same purpose. Up to this time \$247,000 had been expended; yet the harbor was still incomplete, if not positively dangerous. John Wentworth, Chicago's able representative in Congress, had secured the incorporation of another appropriation in the river and harbor bill of 1846, by a decisive majority; but President Polk interposed his veto.

HISTORIC CONVENTION OF 1847.

The president and the minority in Congress were thus committed against the policy of river and harbor improvement. This course provoked general criticism, and especially in the West; and resulted in the call for the famous river and harbor convention, which met in July, 1847. It was one of the most notable events of the period. Preliminary conferences had been held in Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo, and New York, and such encouragement had been received that a meeting was held in Chicago, November 13, 1846, to complete the arrangements for the convention. William Moseley Hall, who took the initiative in calling the convention, was from 1845 to 1848, agent at St. Louis of the Lake Steamship Association, connecting by Frink, Walker & Company's stage lines, and later by Illinois and Michigan canal packets, with Illinois River steamers to St. Louis.

The convention assembled in Chicago July 5, 1847. Winnebago County was represented by thirty delegates, as follows: Daniel S. Haight, Anson S. Miller, S. G. Armor, Thomas D. Robertson, William Hulin, Spencer Post, Charles H. Spafford, O. Jewett, J. A. Wilson, Jason Marsh,



Abram E Davis

Newton Crawford, Cyrus F. Miller, Goodyear A. Sanford, W. A. Dickerman, R. R. Comstock, Jesse Blinn, J. B. Peterson, Austin Coltou, Shepherd Leach, C. A. Huntington, J. M. Wight, J. B. Johnson, Samuel Cunningham, Horace Miller, E. M. Miller, W. P. Dennis, H. Barross, D. Corey, M. H. Regan, Dr. Carpenter.

EARLY NAVIGATION PLANS.

The early settlers foresaw that this section of country could not become prosperous without improved facilities for transportation. At that time the navigation of Rock River seemed to offer the most feasible solution of the problem. On January 11, 1840, a meeting of the citizens of Winnebago County was held at Rockford. There was no newspaper in the town until some months later, and the only report of the convention was published in John Wentworth's paper, the *Chicago Democrat*, in its issue of February 12th. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the expediency of asking Congress for a grant of unsold land in the valley of Rock River, the proceeds to be applied to the improvement of the stream. Dr. Goodhue was chosen president; George Stevens, George W. Lee and Charles I. Horsman, vice presidents; John C. Kemble, secretary. Resolutions were introduced by George W. Lee, and unanimously adopted. Dr. Goodhue, George W. Brinckerhoff, and Daniel S. Haight were chosen a committee to correspond with the people of the counties on the river on the subject of the resolutions. This convention did not lead to any practical results. The agitation, however, was continued for some years. On February 28, 1844, the Rockford Forum announced that the steamboat *Lighter* from St. Louis would ascend Rock River on the opening of navigation in the spring. Patronage was solicited; and the Forum advised the citizens to make exchanges of grain for provisions. The *Lighter* arrived in Rockford in the latter part of June. On the 1st of July the steamer made a trip to Roscoe. The visit of the *Lighter* renewed the interest in the improvement of the river and on July 13th a meeting was held at the courthouse to consider the subject. Committees were appointed, resolutions adopted, and on November 22, 1844, a river convention was held at Sterling. William Pollock, who had been employed to make a survey, presented a report. He stated that he had made an examin-

ation of Rock River from the mouth of the Pecatonica to Sterling, a distance of about one hundred miles; and estimated that the total cost of removing all obstructions between these points at \$4,366.75. This was an insignificant sum, and was probably far below what the actual cost would have been. The general government had done nothing in response to the petition sent in 1840; and the assistance of the state legislature was invoked. On February 25, 1845, an act was approved for the improvement of Rock River. Duncan Ferguson, of Winnebago, John Dixon, of Lee, Spooner Ruggles and William W. Fuller, of Ogle, and Theodore Winn, of Whiteside, and their successors were made a body politic and corporate under the name of the "Board of Commissioners for the improvement of the navigation of Rock River." For the purpose of creating a fund for making these improvements, it was provided that a tax should be levied for the year 1845, of seven and one-half mills on every dollar's worth of assessable personal property in Winnebago, Ogle, and Lee counties.

OPERATIONS BEGUN.

In October, 1845, operations were actually begun at Rockford, under the direction of Alonzo Hall. A cofferdam about 50 feet wide was built through the rapids. A wheel at the lower end, propelled by the current, baled out the water. A steamboat channel was excavated in the autumn and winter, and the rock piled outside the dam. The "improvement" ruined the ford; and was absolutely useless for navigation, as the rapids at the mouth of the river in ordinary stages of water would not float a steamer. Similar attempts at improvements were made in the other counties during the year. The money which remained on hand after these expenditures was to be refunded pro rata, as provided by the law, to the counties from which it had been collected.

SHIP CHANNEL PROPOSED.

This failure, however, stimulated further effort. The promoters of the scheme became more audacious than before. Not only was it decided to make Rock River navigable to the mouth of the Pecatonica; it was now also proposed to seek the aid of the government in the construction of a ship canal which should connect Lake

Michigan with Mississippi River. On January 1 and 2, 1846, a ship canal convention was held in Rockford. Delegates were present from northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin. Martin P. Sweet, of Freeport, said this section needed a railroad to the east, and free navigation to the south, so that the people could have a choice of markets. He believed the government should aid in constructing such a waterway. A committee was appointed to draft resolutions expressing the sense of the convention. On Friday, January 2d, the committee presented its resolutions, which were unanimously adopted. It was declared that in the judgment of the convention, the project of connecting the great lakes with the Mississippi River was purely national in its character; that the cheapest and best mode of effecting this communication was by means of slack-water navigation of Rock River, and by a properly constructed canal connecting it with Lake Michigan; and that the completion of this work in connecting the Atlantic ports on the east with the Gulf of Mexico on the south would form a strong bond which would unite more firmly the North and the South for mutual defense. A committee was appointed to draft a memorial to the proper authorities for the survey of the route, and to present a memorial to Congress, praying for the construction of a ship canal. Ship-canals, however, are not constructed by resolution, and the usual results followed. In the winter of 1865-66 the subject was revived, and February 22d a convention was held at Rockford. Letters were read from General Stephen A. Hurlbut, of Belvidere, Hon. John F. Farnsworth, and others. Another convention was held at Beloit, March 15th. But better railroad facilities had by that time indefinitely delayed, if not forever defeated the construction of an inter-state waterway. Had it not been for the advent of the railroad, the improved navigation of Rock River would in time have been recognized as a public necessity.

OTHER TRANSPORTATION PLANS.

The improvement of navigation facilities was not the only means by which the settlers sought relief from imperfect transportation. Chicago was the nearest grain market. The only communication with that city was by stage and wagon. In the spring and autumn months, when the deep soil of the prairies was saturated

with water, the journeys were slow and tedious. A farmer who had drawn a load of produce to Chicago often received a discouraging margin of profit. A charter had been obtained in 1836 for a railroad between Chicago and Galena. The county, however, was thinly populated, and the people were too poor to make subscriptions. Moreover, eastern capitalists had little confidence in the future of Illinois. The state was burdened with debt; and many of the people openly advocated repudiation. This uncertainty about a railroad continued more than ten years. Meanwhile the citizens were considering other plans. In 1844 preliminary surveys were made for a plank road from Chicago to Rockford.

A committee of citizens residing on the proposed route was held at Elgin, September 20, 1844. This committee had been chosen to collect facts relating to plank roads, and to furnish estimates of cost. J. Young Scammon, of Chicago, and Jason Marsh were members of this committee. Edward B. Talcott, an experienced engineer, was sent by the committee to Canada to examine the plank roads there in use, and to ascertain their cost and manner of construction. On the 19th of November the committee submitted its report, also a detailed statement prepared by Mr. Talcott. He estimated the cost of the road at \$312,731.29. Public meetings were held along the line.

CHICAGO AND ROCK RIVER PLANK ROAD COMPANY.

On January 21, 1845, the Chicago and Rock River Plank Road Company was incorporated by special act. The commissioners appointed to receive subscriptions in Belvidere and Rockford were Alexander Neely, Lyman Downs, Joel Walker, Daniel Howell, C. I. Horsman and Jason Marsh. Among the commissioners from Chicago was Walter L. Newberry, who became the founder of the magnificent Newberry reference library in Chicago. The corporation was given absolute right of way, with power to institute condemnation proceedings when necessary for the purchase of land. The demand for plank roads became general throughout the state, and in February, 1849, an act was passed for the construction of plank roads under a general law. Mr. Colton, in his Forum, discouraged the construction of a plank road from Chicago to Rockford. He said eastern capital could not be secured for such a doubtful enterprise; and

predicted that "sooner far could it be obtained for a railroad on the same ground, and we fully believe that one will be built before a plank one will be completed." Public sentiment showed that Mr. Colton was a prophet without honor in his own country; but time vindicated his claim to the gift of prophecy. No plank road was constructed, under the provisions of the charter. The thunder of the iron horse was heard in the distance; the day of the railroad was at hand.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

In pursuance of an act of the General Assembly, approved February 20, 1847, a constitutional convention assembled at Springfield, June 7th of the same year. The delegates from Winnebago County were Selden M. Church and Robert J. Cross. The delegates from the neighboring county of Boone were Dr. Daniel H. Whitney and Stephen A. Hurlbut, both of whom were well known in Rockford at an early date. The Journal of Proceedings indicate that all of these gentlemen took part in the discussions. Upon the organization of the convention, Mr. Church was appointed a member of the standing committee on the organization of departments and offices connected with the executive department; Mr. Cross, a member of the committee on the bill of rights; Mr. Hurlbut, on the judiciary department; and Dr. Whitney, on incorporations.

Early in the session Mr. Church introduced the following resolution: "*Resolved*, That the committee on the bill of rights be requested to inquire into the expediency of so amending the sixth article of the present constitution that it shall provide that 'there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in this state, otherwise than for the punishment of crimes whereof the parties shall have been duly convicted. Nor shall any person be deprived of liberty on account of color.'" Mr. Cross introduced the following resolution: "*Resolved*, That the committee on elections and the right of suffrage be instructed to inquire into the expediency of changing the time of holding elections from the first Monday in August to the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, and the manner of voting from *vive voce* to ballot." Mr. Cross also led in an effort to secure in the new constitution a provision for a state superintendent of schools, with a liberal salary.

NEW CONSTITUTION ADOPTED.

The convention continued in session until August 31, 1847, when the new constitution was adopted. It was ratified by the people March 6, 1848, and in force from April 1st next following. The adoption of this new constitution was a notable event in the transition of Illinois from a primitive, pioneer state to a great commonwealth. Many changes were made. A section, introduced by Mr. Hurlbut, of Boone, provided for township organization in the counties, whenever desired. The time of holding the general elections was changed from August to November; the method of voting changed from *vive voce* to ballot; the judiciary was made elective; and many improvements were made along other lines. This constitution remained in force until 1870.

CHAPTER XII.

COURTS, BENCH AND BAR.

EARLY COURT ELECTIONS—SIX JUDICIAL CIRCUITS IN 1835—EARLY COURTS CONVEENE IN DWELLINGS—FIRST CIRCUIT COURT—FIRST CIRCUIT JUDGE—FIRST PETIT JURY—FIRST GRAND JURY—FIRST COURT BUILDINGS—JUDICIARY RE-ORGANIZED IN 1841—CIRCUIT JUDGES—SEVENTY-ONE YEARS COVERED—DISTRICT AND STATE'S ATTORNEYS—CIRCUIT CLERKS AND RECORDERS—PROBATE AND COUNTY JUDGES—CLERKS OF THE COUNTY COURT—BAR OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY, PAST AND PRESENT—SECOND WOMAN LAWYER IN STATE FROM WINNEBAGO—MASTERS IN CHANCERY.

EARLY COURT ELECTIONS.

Under the first constitution of Illinois, the justices of the Supreme court and the judges of the inferior courts were elected by joint ballot of the legislature. This made the courts in a sense the creatures of the legislature rather than a co-ordinate branch of the government. The legislature is always governed more or less by partisan expediency, and the reflex action

upon the judiciary compromised its independence.

The first judicial apportionment which affected Winnebago County was the act of the legislature of January 17, 1835, by which the state was divided into six judicial circuits. Under this first apportionment, what is now Winnebago County formed a part of the Sixth circuit. Thomas Ford was commissioned January 19, 1835, but he never presided over a court within the present limits of Winnebago County. Judge Ford resigned in March, 1837, and was elected governor in 1842. He was the author of "Ford's History of Illinois," an historical classic. Judge Ford was succeeded by Judge Stone, who was commissioned March 4, 1837. Judge Stone became a member of the Springfield bar in 1833. Upon his elevation to the bench, he was assigned to the northwestern part of the state, and removed to Galena. Judge Stone was legislated out of office in 1841. He removed a few years later from the state, and died in New Jersey.

The Seventh judicial circuit was created February 4, 1837, and February 23, 1839, the eighth and ninth circuits were created. Judges were appointed for these additional circuits.

The act establishing Winnebago county provided that until public buildings should be erected, the Circuit courts should be held at the house of Germanicus Kent or Daniel S. Haight, as the county commissioners should direct. At the first session of this court it was ordered that, pending the location of the county seat, the Circuit courts should be held at the house of Mr. Haight. An examination at the circuit clerk's office reveals the almost incredible fact that no records of this court previous to 1854, except the simple dockets of the judge, have been preserved. The conclusion must be drawn that this docket was the only record made at the time. Memoranda kept by individuals have given facts upon which the official records are silent.

FIRST CIRCUIT COURT.

The first Circuit court convened at the house of Daniel S. Haight, October 6, 1837. This was the frame building which stood on the northeast corner of Madison and State streets. The statute of 1835 provided that the General Assembly, on joint hallot, at that session, and every two years thereafter, should choose one state's attorney for each judicial circuit. At

this first court Hon. Dan. Stone, of Galena, was the presiding judge. Seth B. Farwell was appointed state's attorney pro tem; and James Mitchell, then of Jo Daviess county, clerk. Mr. Mitchell held this position until 1846, when he was chosen superintendent of the lead mines. He was succeeded as clerk by Jason Marsh, who was appointed by Judge Thomas C. Brown. The offices of circuit clerk and recorder were separate until the second constitution went into effect, when they were united, and this officer was made elective. The petit jurors on duty at the first term were: Edward Cating, James B. Martyn, Joel Pike, William Pepper, Richard Montague, Isaac N. Cunningham, Thatcher Blake, Henry Thurston, Charles I. Horsman, David Goodrich, James Jackson, and Cyrus C. Jenks. There were but two trials by jury, and these were of very little importance.

The sessions of May, 1838, and April 18, 1839, were also held at Mr. Haight's house; although, for convenience, a room in the Rockford House, on the corner west, was actually used when more room was required. The first grand jury was impaneled at the May term, 1838. The names of this jury were: Anson Barnum, Lyman Amsden, Isaac Johnson, James Sayre, H. M. Wattles, Asa Daggett, H. W. Gleason, Samuel Gregory, Asa Crosby, Daniel Beers, Walter Earle, Isaac Hance, Benjamin T. Lee, E. H. Potter, Paul D. Taylor, Lyman B. Carrier, Aaron Felts, Cyrus C. Jenks, James B. Martyn, Livingston Robbins, Henry Enoch, and Luman Pettibone. Anson Barnum was appointed foreman. At this term the usual order was reversed, in that the judge occupied one of the few chairs in the house, while the jury "sat on the bench."

FIRST COURT BUILDINGS.

The first building erected for the use of courts and religious meetings was built by Mr. Haight, in the summer of 1838, on the southeast corner of Madison and Market streets, on the site of the American House. It was a frame structure, about 16 by 32 feet, with one story. This house, with additions, was later the residence of William G. Conick. In this building were probably held the sessions of November, 1839, and April, 1840. Several of the lawyers who attended the courts in those days attained distinction in their profession. Among these



Engr'd by Campbell Brothers NY

Geo. H. Bennett.

Munsell Publishing Company

may be mentioned: Judge Drummond, then of Galena, who removed to Chicago and became a judge of a Federal court; Thompson Campbell, of Galena; Joel Wells, who canvassed the district for Congress; Norman B. Judd, of Chicago; and Seth B. Farwell and Martin P. Sweet, of Freeport. The famous John Wentworth, "Long John," made his maiden speech in Rockford, as attorney in a case that promised to bring him prominently before the public. Mr. Wentworth made frequent visits to Rockford in later years; and for several terms he represented the Belvidere district in Congress. On September 12, 1840, the county purchased the abandoned building on North First street, which had been commenced by the First Congregational church two years before. The consideration was \$600. The deed was executed by H. B. Potter, E. H. Potter and S. D. Preston. Since the building had been abandoned by the Congregationalist people it had been used as a carpenter's shop. When the county obtained possession the building was partially finished so that the courts could be held there. The session of September 10, 1840, and subsequent sessions were held at this place, until the transfer of the courthouse to the West side.

The judiciary of the state was reorganized in 1841 by a statute which repealed all former laws authorizing the election of circuit judges, who were legislated out of office. The state was divided into nine circuits. Additional justices of the Supreme court were appointed, who were required to do circuit duty. The judiciary, as thus organized, was continued until the entire system of an appointive judiciary was swept away by the new constitution of 1848. Under this new system the first judge assigned to circuit duty in Rockford was the Hon. Thomas C. Browne, who presided at the first term of court in the courthouse completed in 1844. Upon the adoption of the first constitution he was elevated to the Supreme bench, and served continuously thirty years, until the reorganization of the judiciary under the constitution of 1848.

Hon. Jesse B. Thomas succeeded Judge Browne in 1847, as presiding judge of Winnebago County, and served until the judiciary system was changed in 1848. Judge Thomas first held the position of circuit judge from 1837 to 1839. In 1843 he became associate justice of the Supreme court by appointment of the governor, as successor to Stephen A. Douglas, and

was subsequently elected by the legislature to the same office. He died in Chicago, February 21, 1850.

Hon. Hugh T. Dickey was the first judge to preside in Rockford after the adoption of the second constitution. In September, 1848, he was elected judge of the Seventh judicial circuit. He died in New York, his native city, June 2, 1892.

Hon. Hugh Henderson, of Joliet, succeeded Judge Dickey, and presided in 1848 and 1849. He died soon afterward, and little is known of him.

Judge Benjamin R. Sheldon succeeded Judge Henderson. Judge Sheldon was a native of Massachusetts. He came to Illinois at an early day, and resided first at Hennepin, and later at Galena. He was elected in 1848 judge of the Sixth circuit, which was afterward divided and he was assigned to the Fourteenth circuit. He remained on the Circuit bench until 1870, when he was elected a justice of the Supreme court, presiding as chief justice in 1877. He was re-elected in 1879, but retired in 1888. Judge Sheldon then became a resident of Rockford, where he died April 13, 1897. He left an estate valued at \$2,000,000. He bequeathed \$10,000 to the Young Men's Christian Association of Rockford, and \$10,000 to Rockford College.

Hon. William Brown was the first citizen of Rockford to be elected to the Circuit bench. He was chosen in 1870 to fill the vacancy occasioned by the promotion of Judge Sheldon to the Supreme bench. Under the judicial apportionment of March 28, 1873, Jo Daviess, Stephenson and Winnebago counties formed the First circuit. In the following June, Judge Brown was elected for the full term of six years. He was subsequently elected for two full terms, making a total period of over twenty years on the bench.

By the apportionment of 1873, the legislature divided the state, exclusive of Cook County, into twenty-six judicial circuits. In 1877 the legislature, in order to increase the number of circuit judges, and to provide for the organization of appellate courts, divided the state, outside of Cook County, into thirteen districts, and provided for the election of one additional judge in each district. In August, 1877, one additional judge for each circuit was elected for two years, making three judges in each district. Under

this act, in force July 1, 1877, the First judicial circuit, of which Winnebago County formed a part, was consolidated with the Third circuit, and made the Thirteenth. By this apportionment, Judge Heaton, formerly of the Third circuit, and Judge Bailey became judges of the Circuit court of Winnebago County, in addition to Judge Brown.

Hon. William W. Heaton was elected judge of the Twenty-second circuit in 1861, and occupied a seat upon the bench, through repeated re-elections, until his death, December 26, 1877, while serving as a member of the Appellate court for the First district.

Judge Joseph M. Bailey settled in Freeport, Ill., in 1856, and began the practice of law. His first election to the bench in 1877 was for two years, and he was re-elected in 1879 and 1885. He was several times assigned to duty on the Appellate bench, and in 1888 he was elected to the bench of the Supreme court. Judge Bailey died in office October 16, 1895.

Hon. John V. Eustace settled in Dixon in 1842, where he resided until his death. He was first elected circuit judge in 1857, and served one term. In March, 1878, he was again elevated to the bench, to succeed Judge Heaton. He was re-elected in 1879 and again in 1885. Judge Eustace died at Dixon in 1888.

Judge John D. Crabtree was a native of England, and emigrated to America in the early '40s. He went from Chicago to Pecatonica, in Winnebago County, where he worked on a farm for the late Ephraim Sumner. He then made his home in Lee County, where his entire subsequent life was spent. June 4, 1888, he was elected judge of the Thirteenth circuit, to succeed Judge Bailey. June 1, 1891, he was re-elected for the full term. Judge Crabtree died suddenly at Ottawa, May 22, 1902, while attending a session of the Appellate court.

Judge James H. Cartwright is a son of Rev. Barton H. Cartwright, a pioneer Methodist minister, and a kinsman of the famous Peter Cartwright. In 1888 he was elected circuit judge to succeed Judge Eustace, and in 1891 he was assigned to appellate duty. In 1895 he was elected justice of the Supreme court to succeed Judge Bailey, and re-elected in 1897, 1906 and 1915.

Hon. James Shaw was a native of Ireland. He served eight years in the Illinois house of representatives, and was speaker of that body in

1877. In 1891 he was elected judge for the Thirteenth circuit, and in 1897 he was re-elected for the Fifteenth circuit, under the apportionment of that year.

Hon. John C. Garver was a native of Winnebago County, and was born on a farm near Pecatonica, took a full collegiate course at Wittenburg College, Springfield, O., and studied law under the tutorship of Gen. Keifer, at one time speaker of the lower house of Congress. In 1871 Mr. Garver was admitted to the bar, and began the practice of his profession in Rockford. In 1872 he was elected state's attorney of Winnebago County, and re-elected in 1876. In 1896 Mr. Garver was elected to the Circuit bench, to succeed Judge James Cartwright, upon the elevation of the latter to the Supreme bench. Judge Garver was elected judge of the Seventeenth circuit, under the apportionment of 1897. He died November 27, 1901.

Under the apportionment of 1897, McHenry, Boone, Lake and Winnebago counties constituted the Seventeenth circuit. In June of that year Hon. Charles H. Donnelly of Waukegan and Hon. Charles E. Fuller were elected with Judge Garver, already noted.

Hon. Charles E. Fuller is a native of Boone County, where his entire life has been spent. He was born in Flora Township in 1849. After his admission to the bar in 1870 his rise to political prominence was rapid. In 1878 he was elected state senator after a bitter contest that has become historic. Judge Fuller's legislative experience covers eight years in the state senate, and six in the house. Judge Fuller retired from the bench in 1903 to take his seat in Congress.

Upon the death of Judge Garver, Hon. A. H. Frost was elected in 1902 to fill the unexpired term. Judge Frost was born in Vermont, May 12, 1856. In 1861 he came to Rockford, where he has since resided. Judge Frost read law in the office of the late Major N. C. Warner, and was admitted to the bar January 19, 1879. For some years thereafter he served Rockford as police magistrate. He was elected state's attorney of Winnebago County in 1892, and re-elected in 1896 and 1900. This office he resigned February 24, 1902.

Judge Charles H. Donnelly is a native of Woodstock, Ill., where he was born August 22, 1855. In 1890 he was elected county judge, and served until June, 1897, when he resigned.

Hon. R. W. Wright, of Belvidere, was a candidate to succeed Judge Fuller at the election in 1903. A spirited contest was made by Charles H. Whitney, of Waukegan. The primaries in Winnebago County were held February 12, and resulted in the nomination of Mr. Wright, and he was elected. Judges Frost and Donnelly were re-elected. Judge Wright was the youngest judge who ever sat upon the Circuit bench in Rockford. He was the elder son of the late Hon. O. H. Wright of Belvidere, who once represented the Rockford district in the legislature. Judge Wright was born July 1, 1862. He read law in his father's office and was admitted to the bar at the age of twenty-one. In 1884 he was elected state's attorney of Boone County, and was re-elected in 1888, 1892 and 1896, serving sixteen years.

At the election in 1909 the three judges were re-elected. Judge Wright died November 29, 1910. Mr. Whitney again aspired to the honor and was chosen without opposition at a special election. He was commissioned April 11, 1911. Judge Whitney dropped dead while conversing with a client in the courthouse chambers at Waukegan, July 18, 1914. Governor Dunne appointed Claire C. Edwards, of Waukegan, to complete the term; and in June, 1915, he was elected for a full term. Judges Frost and Donnelly were re-elected.

DISTRICT AND STATE'S ATTORNEYS.

Previous to 1870 a prosecuting attorney was chosen for each Circuit court district in the state. There is a break of six years in the early record. Shelton L. Hall was the first attorney, and served from 1836 to 1842. His successors under the district system were: James L. Loop, 1843 to 1845; Orrin Miller, Jr., 1851-1852; William Brown, 1852 to 1856; U. D. Meacham, 1856 to 1860; Smith D. Atkins, 1860 to 1864; F. C. Ingalls, 1868 to 1872. Mr. Atkins resigned soon after his election to enlist for service in the Civil war. The constitution of 1870 provided for the election of a state's attorney in each county. John C. Garver served from 1872 to 1880. He was succeeded by Charles A. Works, who held the office twelve years. Arthur H. Frost was elected in 1892, and re-elected in 1896 and 1900. He resigned in 1902, preceding his election to the circuit bench. Harry B. North was chosen to complete the term, and was re-

elected in 1904 and 1908. Gust E. Johnson, the present incumbent, was elected in 1912.

CIRCUIT CLERKS AND RECORDERS.

The clerks of the Circuit court have been: James Mitchell, 1836 to 1846; Jason Marsh, 1846 to 1847; Charles H. Spafford, 1847 to 1856; Morris B. Derrick, 1856 to 1860; O. A. Pennoyer, 1860 to 1864; William N. Capwell, 1864 to 1868; Evans Blake, 1868 to 1876; T. M. Butler, 1876 to 1888; Lewis F. Lake, 1888 to 1915, a period of 27 years. From 1836 to 1849 the offices of circuit clerk and recorder were separate. Daniel H. Whitney served 1836-1837; Harvey W. Bundy, 1837 to 1839; William E. Duubar, 1839 to 1843; William Hulin, 1843 to 1849. In 1849 the recorder's office ceased as a separate department, and was united with that of the circuit clerk. In 1912 the offices were again separated, and John A. Bowman was elected recorder.

PROBATE AND COUNTY JUDGES.

Previous to 1837 a judge of probate was appointed for each county by the legislature. In 1837 the office was made elective, with the title of probate justice of the peace, to be filled by a vote of the people. The constitution of 1848 brought this court to an end, and transferred its powers to the judge of the County court.

Milton Kilburn was the first judge of probate, and served 1836-1837. He was succeeded by Charles I. Horsman, who held the office 1837-1838. Anson Barnum was the third judge of probate, and his term was from 1838 to 1841. John W. Taylor held the office from 1841 to 1843. Bela Shaw was probate justice of the peace from 1843 to 1849. Selden M. Church was the first county judge under the constitution, and served from 1849 to 1857. Anson S. Miller succeeded Judge Church, and retained the office until 1865. Abram S. Van Dyke, of Pecatonica, was elected in 1865, and served until 1873, when he resigned just before the expiration of his term.

Judge R. C. Bailey was first chosen in 1873 to fill the unexpired term of Judge Van Dyke. At the county election in that year he was elected, and held the office 33 years. This long service on the bench is without parallel in the history of Winnebago County, and, so far as known to

the writer, is without precedent in Illinois. Judge Bailey was born in Auburn, Me., July 28, 1833, and was graduated from the scientific department of Amherst College, Mass., in 1855. He came to Rockford and entered the profession of civil engineer which he followed until 1858, when he took up the study of law, and was admitted to the bar August 18, 1860. He practiced in this city until he was elected to the probate bench. His pleasant bearing and judicial fairness made him an ideal official. He died October 27, 1910. Judge Bailey retired from office in 1906, and was succeeded by Lewis M. Reckhow, who was re-elected in 1910 and 1914.

CLERKS OF THE COUNTY COURT.

Under the first constitution this officer was clerk of the county commissioners' court. From 1849 to 1855 he was clerk of the County court and of the board of supervisors. In the latter year a separate clerk was appointed by the board, under a special act of the legislature. These offices were subsequently united. The following named citizens have served as county clerk: Don Alonzo Spaulding, 1836 to 1837; Nathaniel Loomis, 1837-1838; Anson Barnum, 1838 to 1840; Selden M. Church, 1840 to 1847; Benjamin A. Rose, 1847 to 1849; William Hulin, 1849 to April 2, 1855; Duncan Ferguson, 1855-1856; E. S. Gaylord, 1856 to 1867; I. S. Hyatt, 1867 to 1869; T. J. Lamont, 1869 to 1873; B. F. Lee, 1873 to 1877; Thomas Bell, 1877 to 1886; Marcus A. Norton, 1886 to 1915, a period of twenty-nine years. He has three years to serve.

BAR OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY.

Brief biographical sketches of a score of early day members of the Rockford bar have already been given in preceding chapters. They were representative citizens as were many others in a long and honorable list.

John C. Kemble, as previously stated, was the first lawyer who practiced in Winnebago County. Another early lawyer was Grant B. Udell.

James G. Manlove began the practice of law in Rockford in 1851. He held the office of police magistrate, justice of the peace, town clerk and alderman. Mr. Manlove was first elected town clerk in 1864, and served two years. In 1867 he was again elected and served until 1890, a

total period of twenty-five years. Mr. Manlove died in November, 1890.

Elijah W. Blaisdell began his residence in Rockford in 1853, and in January following purchased the Rockford Forum and changed the name to the Republican. Mr. Blaisdell attended the meeting at Bloomington in 1856, which resulted in the organization of the Republican party in Illinois. He was elected member of the legislature in 1858, and voted for Abraham Lincoln for United States senator, against Stephen A. Douglas. After his term had expired he was admitted to the bar and practiced for many years. Mr. Blaisdell died Jan. 14, 1901.

Christopher M. Brazee was one of the most aggressive advocates who ever practiced at the bar of Winnebago County. He first came to Rockford in 1855 from New York, his native state. He read law in the office of Cyrus F. Miller and H. W. Taylor, and was admitted to the bar about 1859. In 1862 he enlisted as first lieutenant in the Seventy-fourth regiment. In 1877 Mr. Brazee was elected colonel of the Third regiment Illinois National Guard, and served until his death. He led seventy-seven men of the Rifles to Braidwood to quell the riots at the mines. In 1880 Mr. Brazee was presidential elector, and cast his vote for Garfield and Arthur. Mr. Brazee died Sept. 6, 1886. His only civil office was that of city attorney, which he held from 1860 to 1872, with the exception of '63, and again in 1874.

H. D. Adams was city attorney in 1858, during the administration of Mayor Seely Perry.

Hosmer P. Holland came to Rockford with his father, John A. Holland, in 1845. He served his country as a soldier in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry in the Civil war. He was for several years secretary of the Rockford Watch Company, and one of the founders of the abstract firm of Holland, Ferguson & Company.

John A. Phelps, a Rockford attorney, died July 28, 1854. The bar of the city adopted resolutions and attended his funeral in a body.

Melancthon Smith came to Rockford in 1854, studied law and was admitted to the bar. He resigned the position of postmaster to enter military service, and was killed at the storming of Vicksburg.

In the law library at the courthouse is a group picture of the Rockford bar of 1858. The practitioners of that time, not elsewhere men-



Engel & Campbell Brothers N.Y.

Dr. E. C. Dunn

Massachusetts

tioned in this article bore the names of Chapman, Danforth, Dunlap, Babcock, McKenney, and Hathaway.

James T. Leroy was a practitioner upon the outbreak of the Civil war. He raised a company of eighty-one cavalry men, of which he was chosen captain, but the state government then wanted only infantry, and their services were not accepted. There is a tradition that Leroy afterward joined the Confederate army, and was made a prisoner of war by Rockford boys.

William Marshall practiced in Rockford many years. At one time he was a member of the firm of Lathrop, Marshall & Taggart. Mr. Marshall removed to the South, where he died April 25, 1902.

Porter Sheldon, a brother of C. W. Sheldon, came to Rockford about 1857. He was city clerk in 1859, during the first administration of Mayor Charles Williams. In 1862 Mr. Sheldon was a member of the constitutional convention, and in 1864 he was assistant paymaster of the army under David T. Dixon. About 1868 Mr. Sheldon removed to Jamestown, N. Y., to look after the estate of a deceased brother, who was also a lawyer.

R. F. Crawford came to Rockford about 1866, soon after receiving his discharge as a soldier in the Civil war. From 1875 to 1877 he was a representative in the state legislature. He was also a member of the library board for several years. In 1888 Mr. Crawford removed to Santa Rosa, Cal., where he has served a term of six years as judge of the Superior court.

Norman C. Warner came from New York to Illinois and settled in Will County in 1849. He enlisted as a private in 1861 in the Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was advanced to the rank of major for meritorious conduct, and was dangerously wounded in 1864 at Strawberry Plains. Major Warner was admitted to the bar in Washington, D. C., in 1868, and in the following year he began the practice of law in Rockford. He served as corporation attorney from 1881 to 1884, inclusive, during the administrations of Mayors Crawford and Taggart.

A roster of attorneys, published in 1869, gives, in addition to those previously mentioned the following names: M. C. Brown, Jr., John M. Buell, J. G. Lyford, H. G. Clark, James Denison, Robert B. Archibald, B. F. McKenney.

Miss Alta M. Hulett was the first woman to apply for admission to the legal fraternity in

Winnebago County, and the second to seek such honor in the state of Illinois. Her only predecessor was Mrs. Myra Bradwell, of Chicago, Miss Hulett was the daughter of a farmer living a few miles north of the city, and a distant relative of Mrs. H. H. Waldo. She graduated from the East Side high school in 1870 and began the study of law. J. M. Wight, A. S. Miler and C. M. Brazee recommended to the Supreme court that she be admitted to the bar. That tribunal, however, refused to give her a license. The local attorneys actively espoused the cause of Miss Hulett, who delivered a lecture in old Brown's Hall Nov. 25, 1871, in which she scored the justices for their discrimination against her. Miss Hulett's friends promptly prepared an act enabling women to practice at the bar. It was submitted to the legislature and became a law. Thus a Rockford girl of eighteen years prepared the way for the women of Illinois to practice law in the courts of the state. Miss Hulett went to Chicago, where she practiced law. Her health failed, and she went to California, where she died.

Catharine Waugh McCulloch was the second woman of Rockford to be admitted to the practice of the law. She is a daughter of the late A. M. Waugh, and was born in Ransomville, N. Y., June 4, 1862. She graduated from Rockford Seminary in 1882; from the Union College of Law, Chicago, in 1886, and admitted to the bar in the same year. She was married to Frank H. McCulloch, May 30, 1890. Mrs. McCulloch has achieved distinction in Chicago by the advocacy of various reforms.

W. T. Hyde served Rockford as city attorney in 1873, during the administration of Gilbert Woodruff. J. Prynne Jones practiced law here in the later '70s. D. M. Kirton was a practitioner in the late '70s. A. E. Holt was city attorney of Rockford in 1887-'88. He subsequently removed to Chicago.

Charles A. Works was a native of Winnebago County, where his entire life was spent. From 1873 to 1875 he served as clerk of the Illinois Supreme court at Ottawa. He began the practice of law in Rockford in 1879, and the following year he was elected state's attorney of Winnebago County, and served three consecutive terms. In 1892 he was elected a member of the state board of equalization, and re-elected in 1896 and 1900. Mr. Works died in May, 1903.

Robert G. McEvoy completed his life work at

the age of 43 years. He was born in Prescott, Canada, in 1860, and came with his parents to Illinois when eleven years of age, and settled in New Milford. Mr. McEvoy studied law at Ann Arbor, and upon the completion of his course began practice in Rockford. In 1888 he formed a partnership with A. H. Frost, which was continued until the elevation of the latter to the circuit bench in 1902. This partnership was ideal, each seeming to supply those qualities in which the other was perhaps more deficient. Mr. McEvoy died July 20, 1904.

The list of members of the Rockford bar in 1887 contains, beside those previously mentioned, the following names: W. R. Weld, N. S. Aagesen, Chas. W. Allen, John Schwender, Jr., M. S. Douglas.

The present members of the Winnebago county bar are: Harry B. Andrews, W. W. Bennett, Boyd S. Beckington, Ralph E. Beckington; Roy H. Brown, R. J. Cannell, Fred E. Carpenter, Lyman Dexter, A. D. Early, B. B. Early, Byron E. Eastwood, E. W. Engstrom, Arthur H. Frost, C. W. Ferguson, A. E. Fisher, Raymond S. Frost, J. G. Filmore, James F. Finn, B. H. Garrett, J. E. Goembel, Marion E. Garmory, George P. Gallaher, Thomas E. Gill, Robert M. Gibboney, Arthur R. Haley, Roy F. Hall, Harry L. Heer, Stanton A. Hyer, Herbert S. Hicks, Walker F. Hull, Gust E. Johnson, William Johnson, B. A. Knight, B. J. Knight, William D. Knight, Frank J. C. Krahn, Edward P. Lathrop, Robert Lathrop, Richard F. Locke, A. B. Louison, Swan Lindskold, S. L. Large, O. G. Lawbaugh, Philip H. Lewis, Albin S. Lundvall, E. H. Marsh, Isaac J. Monahan, David D. Madden, F. E. Maynard, L. C. Miller, Nels. P. Nelson, Harry B. North, Burton W. Norton, Carl O. Nyman, Carrie Libby Rapp, Robert Rew, L. M. Reckhow, Frank S. Regan, Earl D. Reynolds, Frank M. Ryan, E. B. Sumner, Fred H. Smith, A. Philip Smith, John A. Smith, Shell R. Smith, E. M. St. John, Frank A. Ticknor, James G. Tetlow, R. K. Welsh, G. O. Williams, O. M. Williams.

MASTERS IN CHANCERY.

The masters in chancery of Winnebago County have been: John W. Taylor, Cyrus F. Miller, William Brown, William Lathrop, Edward H. Baker, Horace W. Taylor, Edward H. Marsh.

The services of Mr. Taylor and Mr. Marsh cover an even half century.

CHAPTER XIII.

WINNEBAGO IN POLITICS.

STATE BONDED INDEBTEDNESS—CRITICAL PERIOD FOR ILLINOIS—OPINION OF GOVERNOR FORD IN 1842—STATE DEBT REDUCED DURING HIS ADMINISTRATION—WINNEBAGO COUNTY NEVER FAVORED REPUDIATION—ELECTIVE AND APPOINTIVE LAWS—EARLY CONGRESSIONAL AND SENATORIAL DISTRICTS—FIRST LAW PARTNER OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN—EARLY RECOGNIZED LINCOLN'S GENIUS—WINNEBAGO COUNTY FORGES TO THE FRONT—STABLE CITIZENS ELECTED TO OFFICE—CAMPAIGN OF 1840—WHIGS CARRY IN LOCAL ELECTIONS—INTERESTING SIDE LIGHTS—ABRAHAM LINCOLN CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR—DEATH OF PRESIDENT HARRISON—BITTER LOCAL FIGHT IN 1841—JOHN T. STUART REELECTED TO CONGRESS—THOMAS FORD ELECTED GOVERNOR—STATE AND COUNTY OFFICIALS—SEVEN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS IN 1843—WINNEBAGO COUNTY IN SIXTH DISTRICT—ELECTIONS THAT YEAR—FURTHER POLITICAL CHANGES—MORMONS MOVE FROM HANCOCK COUNTY—WHIG PARTY SUCCESSFUL IN COUNTY ELECTIONS—BIRTH OF REPUBLICAN PARTY—ROCKFORD'S CLAIM—CITIZENS REGISTER PROTEST AGAINST SLAVERY—TEXT OF CALL—HISTORIC MEETING AT ROCKFORD—ABRAHAM LINCOLN NOMINATED FOR SENATOR IN 1858—THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES—JUDGE DOUGLAS ELECTED SENATOR—CAMPAIGN OF 1860—WINNEBAGO COUNTY GAVE LINCOLN A LARGE VOTE—MR. LINCOLN'S ELECTION—MEMORIALS TO STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS—COUNTY REPUDIATES NEW CONSTITUTION—CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES IN 1862—POLITICAL ACTIVITIES—LINCOLN REELECTED IN 1864—ASSASSINATED IN 1865—THE AUTHOR'S TRIBUTE TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN—WINNEBAGO COUNTY'S VOTE IN 1868—IN A VISIT TO ROCKFORD GENERAL GRANT MADE A PLEASING SPEECH—SECOND VISIT OF GENERAL GRANT—MEMORABLE POLITICAL GATHERINGS—PROFOUND IMPRESSION MADE BY ROBERT G. INGERSOLL—IN

PRESIDENTIAL VOTE WINNEBAGO SUPPORTED JAMES A. GARFIELD—PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN OF 1884—ROCKFORD ENTERTAINS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS—OFFICIAL VOTE—POLITICAL DEMONSTRATIONS—CAMPAIGN OF 1888—OFFICIAL VOTE OF COUNTY—POLITICS IN 1890—ABLE MEN SENT TO CONGRESS—FIRST AND SUBSEQUENT APPORTIONMENTS OF STATE INTO DISTRICTS—ONLY THREE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS IN 1831—RAPID POLITICAL CHANGES—WINNEBAGO REPRESENTED BY MEN OF NATIONAL WORTH—ROCKFORD DISTRICT FOR FIFTY YEARS REPRESENTED BY THREE MEN—WINNEBAGO IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE—A CAREFUL RECORD COVERING SEVENTY-EIGHT YEARS—COUNTY VOTE IN 1892—PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AND VOTE IN 1896—ELECTION AND VOTE IN 1900—STATISTICS OF 1908—IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OF 1912 WINNEBAGO COUNTY GOES PROGRESSIVE—IN 1914 COUNTY CARRIED BY LAWRENCE Y. SHERMAN FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR.

STATE BONDED INDEBTEDNESS.

The history of the bonded indebtedness of the states begins with the period from 1830 to 1840. At the beginning of that decade the aggregate debt of the several states amounted to only \$13,000,000. Then began an era of extravagance in which certain states made enormous expenditures for internal improvements, and for funding their debts, negotiated large loans on long time. Within the twelve years succeeding 1830 the aggregate debt of the states had arisen to more than \$200,000,000, an increase of more than 1600 per cent.

Illinois narrowly escaped the odium of repudiation. At this critical period Thomas Ford became governor. On this point he says in his "History of Illinois:" "It is my solemn belief that when I came into office, I had the power to make Illinois a repudiating state." After July, 1841, no effort was made to pay even the interest on the debt; and her bonds declined to fourteen cents on the dollar. Ford was elected governor in 1842, and his title to fame securely rests upon the fact that he stemmed the tide, so that the larger portion of the debt was actually paid during his administration.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY AGAINST REPUDIATION.

Notwithstanding the fact that the citizens of Winnebago County desired annexation to Wis-

consin, in part by reason of this debt, there was no attempt made to repudiate the debt so long as they remained in the state. On the other hand, the citizens took an unequivocal position against such a ruinous policy. A call was issued for a meeting February 5, 1842, to consider the condition of the public credit. This call was signed by S. M. Church, S. D. Preston, George S. Haskell, Germanicus Kent, D. S. Haight, G. A. Sanford, Francis Burnap and others. It had been surmised that Illinois would refuse to pay its debt. This call was endorsed by a vigorous editorial in the Rockford Pilot, which closed with these words: "As this is a question of vital consideration to every citizen, we trust that a full attendance will be had on that occasion—that by your presence and your voices you may show to the world your opinion in regard to these surmises. Think not that your individual credit is independent of that of your state and nation. All power and all public acts emanate directly from the people, who are the sovereigns of the republic; and whatever honor or shame falls to your state, must be shared among you." The citizens' meeting was in sympathy with this editorial comment; and the moral influence of Winnebago County was thus placed on record against a repudiating policy that would have brought the state into everlasting disgrace.

Under the first constitution of Illinois, the commissioners, sheriff and coroner were the only constitutional county officers. The latter two were elected every two years. The other county officers were created by statute. They were filled by appointment made either by the county commissioners' court or by the governor. Previous to 1835 a recorder for each county was appointed by the governor; and a surveyor was chosen by the commissioners' court. The statute of 1835 made these officers elective on the first Monday in August of that year, and every fourth year thereafter. Previous to 1837 county treasurers and clerks of the commissioners' courts were appointed by said courts. An act approved February 7th of that year made these offices elective on the first Monday in the following August, on a corresponding day in 1839, and in every fourth year thereafter. Up to 1837 a judge of probate was appointed for each county by the legislature. An act of March 4th made this office elective, with the title of probate justice of the peace, on the

first Monday in August of that year, on a corresponding date in 1839, and in every fourth year thereafter. Under an act approved February 27, 1845, the tenure of office of probate justice of the peace, recorder, clerk of the county commissioners' court, surveyor and treasurer was reduced to two years. This law took effect on the first Monday in August, 1847. Under the constitution of 1848 the term of office of the county and circuit clerks was extended to four years.

CONGRESSIONAL AND SENATORIAL DISTRICTS.

On August 1, 1836, when occurred the first general election in Winnebago County, there were elected with other county officers a member of Congress and two representatives in the state legislature. Under the apportionment of 1831 the state was divided into three congressional districts. In 1836 the Third District, which included Winnebago County, extended from the Wisconsin boundary to a line below Springfield, and entirely across the state from east to west. The northern half of the state was sparsely settled, and comprised one congressional district. At the first election in this county William L. May, the Democratic candidate for Congress, received seventy-three votes, and John T. Stuart, forty-four votes; a majority for May of twenty-nine votes. Mr. May was elected and served two years. His home was at Springfield. Previous to 1840 the senatorial district of which Winnebago formed a part, included the entire Rock river valley, as well as a large tract below the mouth of Rock River. This vast area, extending from Dubuque almost to St. Louis, was entitled to one senator and two representatives in the legislature. The first election in Winnebago County for representatives resulted as follows: John Turner, seventy-four votes; Charles R. Bennett, seventy-three; Elijah Charles, thirty-four; James Craig, forty; L. H. Bowen, eight. James Craig and Elijah Charles were elected.

Under an early statute, presidential elections in Illinois were held on the first Monday in November. At the presidential election in 1836, only 158 votes were polled, an increase over the August election of thirty-eight votes. The Harrison electors received seventy votes, and the Van Buren electors, eighty-eight; a Democratic majority of eighteen.

In 1837 Harvey W. Bundy was elected recorder, to succeed Daniel H. Whitney, of Belvidere, who had become a resident of the new county of Boone. Herman B. Potter was elected county commissioner to succeed Simon P. Doty, of Belvidere. Charles I. Horsman was elected probate justice of the peace. Milton Kilburn had served as judge of probate the preceding year, under appointment. Nathaniel Loomis was chosen clerk of the commissioners' court; Robert J. Cross was elected county treasurer.

FIRST LAW PARTNER OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

At the general August election in 1838, John T. Stuart, of Springfield, was the Whig candidate for member of Congress. His Democratic opponent was Stephen A. Douglas, who was also of Springfield. Mr. Stuart received a majority of ninety-three in Winnebago County, and was elected. Mr. Stuart was perhaps the first prominent man to recognize the genius of Abraham Lincoln, and by the loan of books he had encouraged him to study law. Mr. Lincoln, after his admission to the bar in 1837, became the law partner of his benefactor. When Mr. Stuart began to receive political honors, he necessarily gave less attention to his profession. Thus the conduct of the business largely devolved upon Mr. Lincoln. Winnebago County forged so rapidly to the front that in 1838 it was conceded one of the representatives in the General Assembly, and Germanicus Kent was elected and Hon. James Craig was re-elected.

CAMPAIGN OF 1840.

The presidential campaign of 1840 was one of the most exciting in American political history. The hero of Tippecanoe was the idol of his party, and no leader ever received a more enthusiastic support. Winnebago County had now become a Whig stronghold, and the party waged an aggressive campaign against the Loco-Focos, as the Democrats were then called. April 11, 1840, the Whigs held a convention at Rockford, and nominated a full county ticket. Among the local leaders of this party were Selden M. Church, Jacob Miller, H. B. Potter, G. A. Sanford, Isaac N. Cunningham. Democratic principles were championed by Jason Marsh, Daniel S. Haight, Henry Thurston, P.



JONAS ERICKSON



MRS. JONAS ERICKSON

Knappen, J. C. Goodhue, H. W. Loomis, C. I. Horsman. Boone County had been organized from the eastern portion of Winnebago, and the western two ranges had been transferred to Stephenson. In the August elections the Whigs polled 637 votes, and the Democrats, 285, with a Whig majority of 352. Thomas Drummond, of Jo Daviess, and Hiram Thornton, of Mercer, both Whigs, carried the county by good majorities for representative, and were elected. I. N. Cunningham was elected sheriff; Alonzo Platt, coroner; and Ezra S. Cable, commissioner.

The presidential campaign overshadowed local issues. Mr. Thurston, in his "Reminiscences," gives this interesting sketch of the stirring incidents of that year: "The sparseness of the population, the limited amount accessible of the current literature of the day, to which some of the settlers had been accustomed; the almost entire deprivation of the pleasures of social life among the older people, caused them to enter into a political or local contest with a vim which almost invariably became personal before it was decided. When the fight was ended, the passions cooled down, and 'sober second thought' had resumed its sway, it frequently happened that both parties joined in a general pow-wow and celebration. It was so in 1840. The Whigs of this locality imitated the tactics so successfully practiced throughout the union. They had no cider, either hard or sweet, but they did possess in abundance all the paraphernalia used by the party in the populous parts of the country. They put up a log cabin in regular pioneer style, on the southeast corner of State and Madison streets, for political headquarters, profusely decorated with coon-skins and other regalia pertaining to the times; imported speakers from Galena, Chicago and intervening points; got up processions, and with Frank Parker blowing an E flat bugle, and China Parker a clarionet—neither of them having the slightest knowledge of music, and each blowing with might and main in a vain effort to drown out his companion—marched about the village wherever they could secure a following. The village drum was in possession of the Democrats, and consequently not available for Whig celebrations." Jacob Miller was the most popular among the local Whig orators. He was familiar with the vernacular of the westerner, and drew his illustrations from their daily life. At the close of a harangue he would sometimes produce his

fiddle and scrape the "Arkansas Traveler." The whole assembly joined in a general breakdown, and the orator of the day was borne in triumph on the shoulders of his friends to the nearest bar.

The presidential election occurred in November. The Whigs cast 768 votes in the county, and the Democrats, 321; total, 1,089; Whig majority, 447. Abraham Lincoln was one of the five Whig candidates for presidential elector in Illinois. The facilities for communication were so meagre that the official vote of the state was not known in Rockford until late in December. A messenger from the capital, with the official vote of the state, passed through Rockford ten days in advance of its publication in the Chicago papers, and communicated, it is said, the news to the prominent men of the Democratic party, in each village, for betting purposes. Illinois was one of the seven states that elected Van Buren electors.

The Rock River Express of December 4, 1840, published this advertisement in display type: "For Salt River, the steamboat Van Buren, only four years old, will leave on the 4th of March next, for Salt River. For freight or passage, apply to the White House. Hypocrites will be in attendance to amuse the passengers free of charge." The local campaign closed with a "Harrison ball," at the Washington House, February 9, 1841. On the evening of March 3d the Democrats gave a Van Buren ball "in honor of the able and enlightened administration of Martin Van Buren."

RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF PRESIDENT HARRISON.

On April 4, 1841, just one month after his inauguration, President Harrison suddenly died. The event filled the country with sorrow. At a meeting of the citizens held in Rockford on the 19th, a committee, which represented both political parties, was chosen to submit resolutions on the death of the president to a mass-meeting of the citizens. These resolutions were unanimously adopted.

In the spring of 1841 a bitter local fight was made on the election of justices of the peace in Rockford Precinct. The candidates were Dr. Haskell, Peter H. Watson and John T. Shaler. Two justices were to be elected; but to satisfy all aspirants, it was proposed to elect later a third justice for the precinct. The business

did not require another justice, but it was thought such an arrangement would be politically convenient. The court, however, held that the election of Mr. Watson was illegal, and no third justice was ever elected in the precinct.

In the congressional election held in August, 1841, the candidates were John T. Stuart and J. H. Ralston. Winnebago County cast 493 votes for the former, and 223 for the latter. Mr. Stuart was re-elected. William Hulin was elected county commissioner.

In 1842 Judge Thomas Ford was elected governor by the Democrats. That party in Winnebago County nominated the following ticket: senator for Winnebago and Ogle counties, James Mitchell; for representative, John A. Brown, editor of the Rockford Pilot; sheriff, John; Paul; commissioner, Spencer Post; coroner, Nathaniel Loomis. The Whigs nominated Spooner Ruggles for senator; George W. Lee, representative; G. A. Sanford, sheriff; Isaac M. Johnson, commissioner; Harvey Gregory, coroner. Mr. Lee withdrew, and Darius Adams, of Pecatonica, was substituted. Spooner Ruggles, Darius Adams, Spencer Post, G. A. Sanford and Nathaniel Loomis were elected to the respective offices.

APPORTIONMENT ACT OF 1843.

By the act of March 1, 1843, the state was divided into seven congressional districts. The first election under this apportionment was held on the first Monday in August of the same year. Under this apportionment, Winnebago and Hancock counties were in the sixth district. Hancock County was the seat of the Mormon settlement, under the leadership of Joseph Smith. The Mormons generally voted the Democratic ticket; and with their support, Joseph Hogue, of Galena, was elected member of Congress. His Whig opponent was Cyrus Walker, of McDonough County. At the county election Ezra S. Cable was elected commissioner; William Hulin, recorder; S. M. Church, clerk; Bela Shaw, probate justice; Ephraim Wyman, treasurer; Volney A. Marsh, school commissioner; Duncan Ferguson, surveyor.

FURTHER POLITICAL CHANGES.

The presidential election of 1844 was scarcely less exciting than that of four years previous.

The Whigs carried the county for Henry Clay, the idol of the party. The Whig ticket received 546 votes; the Democratic, 368; a majority of 178 for Mr. Clay. In August Mr. Hogue was re-elected member of Congress, over Martin P. Sweet, of Freeport. The Rockford Forum of August 14th denounced the apportionment act, which placed the Mormon stronghold in this district, and thus legislated it into the Democratic ranks. Anson S. Miller was elected member of the legislature; Anson Barnum, sheriff; Artemas Hitchcock, coroner. In 1846 Thomas J. Turner, of Freeport, Democrat, was elected member of Congress over James Knox, of Knox County. Wait Talcott received 226 votes as the candidate of the Liberty party. Anson S. Miller, of Winnebago, was elected state senator as a Whig; Robert J. Cross, representative; Hiram R. Maynard, sheriff; and Artemas Hitchcock, coroner. After the Mormons removed from Hancock County the district again became Whig, and in 1848 the party elected Edward D. Baker, of Galena, member of Congress. In 1850, Thompson Campbell, of Galena, was elected member of Congress. At the same time Richard S. Molony, of Belvidere, was elected to represent the adjoining eastern district, which then included Chicago.

In the presidential election of 1852 Winnebago County maintained its position as a Whig stronghold. The presidential electors received 1,023 votes; the Democratic electors, 820; Free Soil electors, 725. Under the apportionment of August 22, 1852, the legislature divided the state into nine congressional districts. The First District comprised the counties of Lake, McHenry, Boone, Winnebago, Stephenson, Jo Daviess, Carroll and Ogle. The campaign of 1852 was signalized by the election of E. B. Washburne as a member of Congress from the First District. Mr. Washburne received 1,102 votes in Winnebago County; Thompson Campbell, his Democratic opponent, 851; and Newman Campbell, 610 votes. Abraham I. Enoch was elected a member of the legislature from the Forty-seventh Senatorial district. His vote in Winnebago County was 1,063. Mr. Enoch was born in Dayton, Ohio, July 24, 1819, came to this county with his father's family in 1835, and settled in Guilford Township. He was honored by several public offices, and in 1866 he was again elected a member of the legislature. He removed to Rockford in 1867, and began

the manufacture of plows. In 1844 Mr. Enoch married Catharine J. Davis. They had seven daughters: Mrs. D. C. Putnam, Mrs. H. H. Carpenter, Mrs. Charles A. Works, and Misses Clara, Harriett A., Emma A. and Lois A. Mr. Enoch died in 1883. William Brown was elected state's attorney. Charles H. Spafford was elected circuit clerk, and King H. Milliken, sheriff. At the county election in 1853 the entire Whig ticket was successful, and Selden M. Church was elected county judge.

Rockford's claim to the first Republican congressional nomination in Illinois is indisputable. When the Kansas-Nebraska bill was passed by Congress in May, 1854, there was a general feeling in the old Whig and Democratic parties that the encroachments of the slave-power demanded more vigorous resistance. The citizens of Winnebago County, who were largely of New England blood and traditions, were in sympathy with the general uprising. With this end in view, a call was issued August 8, 1854, to the voters of the First Congressional district, consisting of Lake, McHenry, Boone, Winnebago, Stephenson, Jo Daviess, Carroll and Ogle counties. The call was signed by forty-six citizens of Rockford and vicinity, as follows: U. M. Warner, George Haskell, J. K. Smith, R. P. Lane, S. M. Church, Benjamin A. Rose, Anson S. Miller, William Hulin, William Lyman, J. H. Manny, M. Mandeville, I. N. Cunningham, Melancthon Starr, William Brown, Wait Talcott, W. H. Johnson, Jason Marsh, Milton Kilburn, Newton Crawford, Cyrus F. Miller, Thomas D. Robertson, B. F. Spaulding, John Platt, Samuel Pierson, E. W. Blaisdell, Jr., D. W. Ticknor, Duncan Ferguson, G. W. Reynolds, B. G. Wheeler, Silas G. Tyler, C. H. Richings, Jesse Blinn, Horace Miller, R. Spurr, C. N. Andrews, John Travis, F. Burnap, Thomas J. Rudd, William Lathrop, John S. Coleman, Lucius Clark, D. Dow, H. R. Maynard, C. A. Huntington, A. I. Enoch, C. W. Sheldon. The last survivor of this historic group was C. W. Sheldon, who died February 3, 1914.

TEXT OF THE CALL.

"To the Electors of the First Congressional District: In view of the rapidly increasing influence of the Slave-Power, as developed in the recent act of Congress, and the treachery of so large a number of representatives chosen to

guard the interests of freemen, the undersigned citizens of Winnebago County most urgently request the electors of this congressional district who have the interests of our common country at heart, irrespective of party, to meet at the courthouse in Rockford on Wednesday, the 30th of August, instant, either by delegates or in mass, to consult upon the great question now at issue, and to adopt such measures as shall be deemed most efficient for combining our efforts and energies at the approaching congressional and state elections, so as to prevent the still further extension of slavery, and to protect the great interests of free labor and free men from being sacrificed to the interest or ambition of trading politicians."

The historic meeting was called to order in the courthouse, and from there adjourned to the grove west of the Baptist church, between Court and Winnebago streets. E. B. Washburne had been elected a member of Congress as a Whig two years before and was a candidate for re-election. There were other Richmonds in the field: Turner and Sweet, of Freeport; Loop, of Rockford; and Hurlbut, of Belvidere. None of these were openly avowed candidates, but each was anxious for the prize. There was ambition mixed with patriotism. It was a time of breaking up of old parties, and the future was uncertain. How far would it be safe to declare against the action of Congress? This was a serious question. The leaders were against Washburne, but the people were with him. Mr. Washburne was nominated as a Republican by this mass convention.

The claim that this was a real Republican convention is sustained by a paragraph from the official minutes, signed by U. D. Meacham, of Freeport, one of the secretaries. This paragraph says: "On motion Hon. E. B. Washburne was nominated by acclamation as the candidate of the Republican party of the First Congressional district of Illinois, for Congress, to be supported at the coming election." A local newspaper, in an editorial comment on the convention, said: "After settling a few other matters, the convention adjourned, and the Republican party was supposed to be born." Thus was made the very first Republican nomination for member of Congress in Illinois. The regular Whig convention for the district was held September 6, and Mr. Washburne was also made the nominee. The strong anti-slavery senti-

ment of both parties had been intensified by the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, under the leadership of Stephen A. Douglas, and the passage of the Illinois Black Laws, through the influence of John A. Logan. Like Saul of Tarsus before he saw a great light, Logan was dominated by prejudice; and, like Paul after his change, he bravely befriended those he formerly oppressed. General Logan always had the courage of his convictions; and his political change was sincere. At the election in November, Wait Talcott was elected state senator; William Lyman, representative.

At the presidential election in November, 1856, Winnebago County gave John C. Fremont a magnificent vote. Every town in the county was carried for the Pathfinder, and the county gave a majority of 3,179 for Fremont over Buchanan. The First Congressional district gave large majorities for Fremont and Washburne. William Lathrop was elected representative; Samuel I. Church, sheriff. Mr. Church was brother of Judge Church, and came to Rockford in 1848. He purchased a quarter of the school section; later he made it his home, where he died in 1886.

The famous Lincoln-Douglas debate was an event of local interest as well as national significance. In April, 1858, the Illinois State Democratic convention endorsed Stephen A. Douglas for the United States senate. Abraham Lincoln was nominated by the Republican party at Springfield, June 17, 1858, and on July 24 Mr. Lincoln sent a challenge to Judge Douglas to discuss the political issues of the day in a series of joint debates. The latter accepted the challenge, and named one city in each congressional district, except the second and sixth, where they had already spoken. Ottawa, Freeport, Galesburg, Quincy, Alton, Jonesboro and Charleston were the points chosen for these discussions.

The second and most famous debate was held at Freeport, August 27, 1858, and was the greatest political event ever held in this congressional district. Thousands were in attendance from the northern counties, and the excitement was intense. A special train was made up at Marengo, and run over the Galena & Chicago Union road. It consisted of eighteen coaches, eight of which were filled with Rockford citizens.

On October 27, 1858, Salmon P. Chase ad-

ressed the citizens of Rockford, on the political issues of the day, in Metropolitan Hall. The election occurred on the 2d of November and Mr. Lincoln received a majority of over 4,000 of the popular vote, yet the returns from the legislative districts foreshadowed his defeat. At the senatorial election in the legislature, Judge Douglas received fifty-four votes, and Mr. Lincoln forty-six—one of the results of the unfair apportionment law then in operation.

CRITICAL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

The presidential election of 1860 marked an epoch in American history. The nation had come to the parting of the ways. Mr. Lincoln's prophecy that the government could not permanently endure half slave and half free, was about to be demonstrated before the world. Mr. Lincoln, by reason of his profound insight into the political situation, which he had shown in his debates with Judge Douglas, was the logical candidate of his party. The nomination of Mr. Lincoln was received with great enthusiasm by the citizens of Rockford. In August the Rockford Wide Awake Club was organized. Its object was co-operation for the success of Republican principles and the election of Mr. Lincoln. Rockford chose September 1 as Republican rally day. The Wide Awake clubs from neighboring towns were present. The special attraction was Cassius M. Clay, the celebrated orator of Kentucky. The exercises were held on the courthouse square, and it was estimated that fully 12,000 people were in attendance. The first speech was made by Hon. James H. Baker, secretary of state of Minnesota. Mr. Clay was introduced by Judge S. M. Church. During September and October, a series of joint discussions was held by Judge Allen C. Fuller, of Belvidere, and John A. Rawlins, of Galena, on the political issues of the day, and among those who made addresses in Rockford during the campaign were Judge Lyman Trumbull, Stephen A. Hurlbut, Governor Bebb, Melancthon Smith, Colonel Ellis, James L. Loop and Judge Church. Richard Yates and Owen Lovejoy made speeches at Belvidere. One joint debate was held in each county of the First Congressional district. Judge Fuller was the Republican candidate for presidential elector, and Mr. Rawlins was the candidate of the Douglas Democracy. One discussion was held in Rock-



Leon Farmer

ford September 29. These debates have a historic interest by reason of the subsequent prominence of the participants. Judge Fuller became the war adjutant of the state, and in this capacity he displayed great executive ability, and was the able supporter of Governor Yates, in the organization of the military forces of the state. Judge Fuller died in Belvidere in 1901. Upon the outbreak of the Civil war in 1861, Mr. Rawlins came promptly to the support of the Union cause; he was the confidential friend and adviser of General Grant during his campaigns, and in 1869 he became his secretary of war.

The presidential election was held November 6, 1860. Winnebago County cast 3,985 votes for Abraham Lincoln and 817 for Judge Douglas; Richard Yates received 3,986 votes for governor, and Mr. Allen 826.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The election of Mr. Lincoln was perhaps the most notable event in the life of the nation. The shouts of victory had scarcely died away when one southern state after another openly revolted from the authority of the Union. The election of Mr. Lincoln brought the sword, rather than peace. But the sword was drawn in a holy cause. For two hundred and fifty years the irrepressible conflict between freedom and slavery had continued. The "land of the free" had made iniquity her law. Millions of bondsmen wet the soil with tears and blood. Cause and Effect, the chancellors of God, had come to enforce the truth that there were rights that states must keep or they shall suffer for their sins. Victor Hugo says of Napoleon, at Waterloo: "For Bonaparte to be conqueror at Waterloo was not in the law of the nineteenth century. . . . When the earth is suffering from a surcharge there are mysterious moanings from the deeps that the heavens hear. Napoleon had been impeached before the Infinite and his fall was decreed. He vexed God. Waterloo is not a battle; it is the change of front of the universe." So the Slave-Power had overleaped itself, and could no longer resist the advance of a more enlightened Christian civilization.

Abraham Lincoln was the divinely appointed man for the hour. There seem to be certain superhuman adjustments that philosophy does not explain, that work out righteous results.

Human wisdom does not foresee them; they do not destroy human freedom, but they do achieve their results with infallible certainty. The leaders of such events are like Æneas in the fable: they are often covered with a cloud woven by divine fingers, and men do not see them. But when they are needed the cloud breaks away, and they stand before the world prepared to do their work. Such a man was Abraham Lincoln. He was called to lead in a war made holy by the quickened moral conscience of the nation. Poets, and reformers, and statesmen had cast up the highway for the King, who should visit the nation with chastening. This judgment day was at hand, because Phillips, and Garrison, and Sumner had come; because Whittier, and Lowell, and Harriet Beecher Stowe had come; because Sumner and Seward, and Chase had come; because Grant, and Sherman, and Sheridan had come; because the great terrible day of the Lord had come!

Stephen A. Douglas died at the old Tremont House, in Chicago, June 3, 1861, at the age of forty-eight years. With the single exception of Abraham Lincoln, no personality in the history of Illinois possessed more elements of intense interest than that of Senator Douglas. His life was a notable example of the perils and possibilities of genius.

Rockford shared the nation's grief in the death of Senator Douglas. Memorial services were held on the courthouse square, on June 7, and thousands of people were in attendance. The orator of the day was the Rev. John P. Donegan, priest of St. James' Roman Catholic church. Flags were at half mast, public buildings were draped in emblems of mourning, and from two o'clock until five business was suspended.

On the following Sunday a second memorial service was held, Rev. M. Schofield, rector of Emmanuel Episcopal church, preaching in the Second Congregational church, and by request of citizens his discourse was published in the city papers.

The untimely death of Stephen A. Douglas awakened a popular desire to erect a suitable memorial. The Douglas Monument Association was formed, and James S. Ticknor was appointed agent for this county. The payment of one dollar constituted a membership, and the fund provided the monument that stands in Douglas Park, on Lake Michigan, in Chicago. The prop-

erty was later turned over to the care of the state.

COUNTY REPUDIATES NEW CONSTITUTION.

On June 17, 1862, Winnebago County repudiated the new constitution which had been submitted by the state convention. The vote was: for the constitution, 602; against, 3,367. Porter Sheldon was the delegate to the convention from Winnebago County. Gen. A. C. Fuller of Belvidere, adjutant-general of the state, was candidate for representative in Congress in 1862. He was endorsed by the voters of Winnebago County. The delegates to the convention, however, were uninstructed, and they betrayed Fuller and assisted in the nomination of Gen. John F. Farnsworth of St. Charles. Some of them were rewarded by federal patronage when Farnsworth went to Washington.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF 1864.

The political activities of 1864 began early. A mass convention was held at the courthouse April 23. Five delegates were selected for the judicial convention to be held in Chicago, April 27, to nominate a justice of the Supreme court for the Third Division. Charles B. Lawrence, of Knox County, a brother of the late Mrs. E. W. Blaisdell, was nominated. The judicial election was held June 6. The county convention also endorsed President Lincoln for a second term, and Andrew Johnson for vice-president. General Allen C. Fuller, of Belvidere, was supported for governor. Ten delegates were chosen to the state convention in May. All the counties in Northern Illinois, which return the large Republican majorities, instructed for General Fuller. The counties of Central and Southern Illinois, however, which were almost certain to be Democratic, supported General Oglesby, and he was nominated.

At the presidential election in November, 1868, General Grant received 4,567 votes in Winnebago County; Horatio Seymour received 951. John M. Palmer carried the county for governor by a majority of 3,611 over John R. Eden, Democrat. The presidential vote of Winnebago County in 1872 was considerably less than in 1868. General Grant received 3,809 votes; Horace Greeley, 1,051. Seymour G. Bronson, then mayor of Rockford, was the Dem-

ocratic candidate for congressman in the Fourth district. He was defeated by General Stephen A. Hurlbut, of Belvidere, who carried Winnebago County by a majority of 2,212. Winnebago County registered the following vote at the presidential election in 1876: Hayes, 4,505; Tilden, 1,568; for governor: Cullom, 4,514; Steward, 1,623.

GENERAL GRANT VISITS ROCKFORD.

The presidential campaign of 1880 was one of unusual historic interest, by reason of the fame of its leaders. Illinois was one of the battlegrounds between General Grant and James G. Blaine. An incident of the local canvass was General Grant's visit to Rockford. With his wife he arrived from the West and they were driven about the city. Dinner was served at the Holland House. Early in the afternoon there was a demonstration on the courthouse square. William Lathrop introduced the distinguished guest, and the general in response made one of his characteristic brief addresses. He said: "Ladies and gentlemen: A friend had just whispered in my ear that there was to be no speech-making, and I am a good hand at not making speeches. I am greatly pleased to be able to meet the people of Rockford. It is strange that I should have lived so near you as long as I have and never paid you a visit. This morning I spent an hour riding through your beautiful city, admiring the fine residences and the splendid manufacturing and agricultural resources. You have manufacturing interests enough in your city to warrant the increase in population to three times its present size. I trust in the next decade that I may again visit you, and may find that augmentation of population has actually occurred."

The primaries were held May 1, and General Grant carried every district in the city. The county convention, which was held May 8, elected delegates to the state convention instructed for Grant. General Hurlbut, of Belvidere, with Joseph Medill and Charles B. Farwell, had been intrusted with Mr. Blaine's interests in Illinois. Hurlbut visited Rockford before the primaries. Abraham E. Smith, who had a falling-out with Hurlbut, once remarked to the writer that had "Steve" remained at home the county would have gone for Blaine.

General Grant made a second visit to Rockford September 15, 1880, when he was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Talcott, who opened their home to the public for an informal reception to the general. Early in the evening there was a rally at Republican headquarters on South Main street. On the platform were seated General Grant, Governor Cullom, Judge Taft and local speakers. Governor Cullom delivered the principal speech and was followed by Judge Taft. On the following day these distinguished guests made brief addresses at the county fair.

One of the greatest political events in the history of Rockford was the speech of Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll at the fairground September 28. The gifted orator was then in the floodtide of his superb power and the zenith of his fame. Special trains brought visitors from all directions, and an audience estimated at ten thousand greeted the speaker, who was introduced by R. F. Crawford. Colonel Ingersoll charmed his vast throng with more than two hours of wit and eloquence, and the profound impression was expressed a few hours later by William Lathrop, who said: "I have heard more Republicanism this afternoon than in all the rest of my life, and you can't get me between that recollection and a night's sleep." In the evening another demonstration was held at Republican headquarters. Speeches were made by Colonel Ingersoll and John C. Garver. Beside the colonel on the platform were Mrs. Ingersoll, Miss Ada Sweet, for many years pension agent at Chicago, and Frank Lombard, the famous campaign singer. At the presidential election in November, 1880, James A. Garfield carried Winnebago County by a three to one plurality. The returns were: Garfield, 4,629; Hancock, 1,510; Weaver, 242. The returns for governor were: Cullom, 4,512; Trumbull, 1,500; Streeter, 370.

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN OF 1884.

The political events of 1884 were of unusual interest. The county convention was held April 12, and the delegates to the state convention were instructed for General John A. Logan for president, and General Richard J. Oglesby for governor. However, when Mr. Blaine was nominated at Chicago, Rockford enthusiastically supported the "Plumed Knight." There was a de-

fection in the party, not large in numbers, but strong in influence. Some supported Mr. Cleveland, and were known as "Mugwumps;" and others gave their allegiance to John P. St. John, the candidate of the Prohibitionists. It was a campaign of speeches, parades and red fire, in which all parties participated.

On August 27 Rockford was honored with the presence of General Logan and General Oglesby, both of whom made speeches on the fair ground. General Logan, by reason of his position on the ticket, was less impassioned than was his wont. Colonel Clark E. Carr, of Galesburg, made a speech on the evening of September 4 at the East Side Park. September 13 Carl Schurz made a speech at the fair ground before what was regarded at the time as the greatest Democratic mass meeting ever held in Rockford. Carter Harrison, mayor of Chicago, and Democratic candidate for governor, addressed a Democratic mass meeting at the fair ground October 25. There were 4,074 voters registered in the city of Rockford for the November election. The official vote of Winnebago county for president was as follows: Blaine, 4,944; Cleveland, 1,791; St. John, 545; for governor: Oglesby, 4,959; Harrison, 1,821; Hobbs, 51.

The most notable incident of 1888 was the presidential campaign. General Benjamin Harrison was nominated by the national Republican convention June 25, and in the evening of the same day the nomination was ratified in Rockford. Three days later a Tippecanoe club was organized. The re-nomination of Grover Cleveland by the Democrats was a mere formality, as he had proved himself the most commanding figure in his party. With General Clinton B. Fisk as the standard bearer of the Prohibitionists, the campaign was one of intense interest.

POLITICAL DEMONSTRATIONS.

August 30 was Republican day at the Winnebago County fair. Isaac Clements, one of the wheel-horses of Republicanism in Illinois, made a speech in the afternoon. In the evening Stephen A. Douglas, Jr., a son of the famous Illinois senator, discussed the issues of the day from a Republican standpoint, at the courthouse. The next speaker of distinction was General John M. Palmer, Democratic candidate for governor, who addressed a mass meeting from the balcony of the Holland House September 13. On

the following day Joseph W. Fifer, the Republican nominee for governor, made a strong plea for the principles of his party at the courthouse. The greatest demonstration of the year was on September 25, when Senator Will Cumback, of Indiana, urged the support of the Republican nominee in a speech at the East Side Park. The procession was one of unparalleled magnitude in the history of Rockford, and fully 2,000 men were in the line of march. The campaign was signalized throughout by marching clubs and torchlight processions, in which all parties participated. The year marked the passing of these demonstrations, and they have never been revived.

Winnebago County registered the following vote at the November election: Harrison, 5,087; Cleveland, 2,176; Fisk, 621; for governor: Fifer, 5,083; Palmer, 2,322; Harts, 507.

On July 20, 1889, President Harrison nominated Evans Blake as consul to Crefeld, in Rhenish Prussia. Mr. Blake served several years.

REVULSION OF 1890.

One of those periodical political revulsions swept over the country in 1890, when many of the most prominent Republican leaders were temporarily retired to private life. The campaign in Winnebago County was one of unusual interest for an off year. On October 25 Thomas B. Reed, speaker of the national house of representatives, addressed a mass meeting on the fair grounds. Winnebago County has always been a stronghold of Republicanism. Notwithstanding this fact, also that Congressman Hitt was one of the recognized leaders in the house, he carried the county by only 70 votes against Andrew Ashton, of Rockford, who ran as an independent. The vote of Winnebago was divided as follows: Hitt, 3,473; Ashton, 3,413.

LATER PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

Not since the organization of the Republican party in 1854, has a Democratic candidate for president or governor carried Winnebago County. It has ever been regarded as a party stronghold. The vote of 1892 for the two leading parties was as follows: Harrison, 5,854; Cleveland, 2,634. For governor the county cast 5,856 votes for Joseph W. Fifer and 2,632 for

John P. Altgeld. The manner in which the voters voted the "straight ticket" is indicated by the fact that Fifer received two more votes than Harrison and Altgeld received two votes less than Cleveland.

The election of 1896 showed the phenomenal popularity of William McKinley; while William J. Bryan, who had a few months before leaped into fame at a single bound by his brilliant "cross of gold" speech in Chicago, failed to maintain the party status. McKinley received 8,242 votes; Bryan, 2,438; Palmer, independent Democrat, 51. For governor Tanner received 8,010 votes; Altgeld, 2,504; Forman, independent Democrat, 63.

In the election of 1900 Winnebago County cast practically the same vote for the same leading candidates as in 1896. McKinley received 8,103 votes; Bryan, 2,498. For governor Richard Yates fell slightly behind the head of the ticket. The vote: Yates, 7,979; Alschuler, 2,555.

In 1904 the Roosevelt and Fairbanks electors received 8,143 votes; Parker and Davis, 1,177. For governor, Charles S. Deneen received 7,987 votes; Lawrence B. Stringer, 1,310.

In 1908 the Republican party for the fourth consecutive time, polled over eight thousand votes at the presidential election. The results were: Taft, 8,919; Bryan, 2,163; for governor, Deneen, 7,301; Stevenson, 3,919.

The presidential campaign of 1912 was signalized by the first primary held for president and United States senator, which was held April 9. Theodore Roosevelt carried Winnebago County over William H. Taft by a vote of 5,888 to 1,399. Robert M. LaFollette received 1,503. On the Democratic ticket Woodrow Wilson carried the county over Champ Clark by 346 to 315. For governor, Charles S. Deneen, Republican, had a plurality of 948, with eight candidates in the field; C. F. Dunne, Democrat, had a plurality of 27, with four candidates. For United States senator Lawrence Y. Sherman led Shelby M. Cullom by 4,000 to 1,257. At the presidential election Winnebago County, for the only time in its history, repudiated the Republican nominee. The vote was divided as follows: Roosevelt, 7,089; Wilson 2,276; Taft, 2,537. The returns for governor were: Funk, 5,420; Deneen, 3,667; Dunne, 2,993.

Lawrence Y. Sherman carried Winnebago County for United States senator in 1914. Mr.



Oscar Inamor

Sherman has the distinction of being the last senator elected by the legislature of Illinois, to succeed William Lorimer, and the first to be chosen by a direct vote of the people.

WINNEBAGO IN CONGRESS.

The several congressional districts, of which Winnebago County has successively formed a part, have been represented in Congress by able men. Several were leaders and statesmen of national and even international reputation. In order to make the record complete a paragraph must be devoted to the territorial organization of Illinois.

Previous to 1818, when Illinois became a state, the territory was represented in Congress successively by three delegates. Shadrach Bond served from December 3, 1812, until October 3, 1814. Benjamin Stephenson succeeded Bond and served from November 14, 1814, until April 29, 1816. Nathaniel Pope entered Congress December 2, 1816, as the last territorial delegate and remained until Illinois was admitted as a state, in March, 1818. From 1818 until 1832, the state of Illinois constituted one congressional district. Daniel P. Cook was the first representative in Congress, and served from 1818 until 1827. Joseph Duncan succeeded.

APPORTIONMENT INTO DISTRICTS.

The first apportionment proper was made in 1831. The state was divided into three districts. The Third included the northern half of the state, and was represented successively by three congressmen. Joseph Duncan was elected in 1832, but resigned and William L. May, of Springfield, was elected to complete the term. May was re-elected as a Democrat in 1834 and 1836. The latter year was the first in which Winnebago County voted at a congressional election. John T. Stuart, subsequently a law partner of Abraham Lincoln, was elected in 1838 over Stephen A. Douglas, and was re-elected in 1840. Under the new apportionment of 1843, Joseph P. Hogue of Galena was elected as a Democrat for the new Rockford district, and re-elected in 1844, defeating Martin P. Sweet of Freeport. In 1846 Thomas J. Turner of Freeport was elected and served one term, as a Democrat. By the year 1848 the Whigs had again come into power, and the famous Col. Edward D. Baker

was elected to Congress. Colonel Baker was born in London, England, February 24, 1811. He came to the United States at the age of five years, with his father, who died in Philadelphia. The son removed to Springfield, Ill. He served his adopted country with signal ability in the Mexican war. Upon his return to Illinois he settled in Galena, where he lived when he was sent to Congress. Colonel Baker was subsequently elected a United States senator from Oregon. His debate with Breckenridge in the senate, in 1861, attracted national attention. "In the history of the senate," says Mr. Blaine, "no more thrilling speech was ever delivered. The striking appearance of the speaker, in the uniform of a soldier, his superb voice, his graceful manner, all united to give to the occasion an extraordinary interest and attraction." On the outbreak of the Civil war, Colonel Baker left his seat in the senate and entered military service. He was killed while commanding a brigade at the battle of Ball's Bluff, October 21, 1861.

Colonel Baker was succeeded in 1850 by Thompson Campbell, of Galena, as a Democrat, who served one term.

Under the apportionment of 1852 the state was divided into nine districts. Elihu B. Washburne served the entire period of ten years, during which this apportionment continued. Mr. Washburne was first elected as a Whig; his subsequent elections were as a Republican. Elihu Benjamin Washburne was a member of the celebrated Washburne family. He was born in Livermore, Me., September 23, 1816. In 1839 he entered the Harvard law school, and among his schoolmates were Richard Dana and William M. Evarts. He was admitted to the bar in 1840, and at once settled at Galena, Ill., and entered into partnership in the practice of the law with Charles S. Hempstead, one of the incorporators of Rockford Female Seminary. Mr. Washburne remained in Congress until March 6, 1869. From this long and honorable service he was familiarly known as the "Father of the House." When General Grant became president, he honored his old friend with the appointment of secretary of state, and later made him minister to France, which latter position he held during the Franco-Prussian war. At the request of Prince Bismarck, and with the permission of the French minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Washburne exercised his official influence for the protection of the Germans in Paris. When the

empire was overthrown, Mr. Washburne was the first foreign representative to recognize the new republic. He remained in Paris during the siege, and was at his post when the commune ruled the city. The German emperor recognized his services by conferring upon him the Order of the Red Eagle, but he was forced to decline this honor because a law of the United States prohibited it. Upon Mr. Washburne's resignation in 1877, the emperor sent him his life-size portrait; and he was similarly honored by Bismarck, and by Thiers and Gambetta. Mr. Washburne died in Chicago, October 22, 1887.

The apportionment of 1861 divided the state into thirteen districts. Winnebago County formed a part of the Second district, and Gen. John F. Farnsworth represented the district during the full ten years.

In 1872 the state was divided into nineteen districts, and Winnebago County formed a part of the Fourth. Gen. Stephen A. Hurlbut of Belvidere was elected over Hon. S. G. Bronson, then of Rockford. General Hurlbut was re-elected over General Farnsworth in 1874. Stephen A. Hurlbut was born in Charleston, S. C., in 1815, and settled in Belvidere in 1845. He was the son of a Unitarian clergyman, and a brother of William Henry Hurlbut, for many years editor-in-chief of the *New York World*. He was commissioned a brigadier-general in 1861, in the Civil war, commanding the fourth division at the battle of Shiloh, and for that service he was promoted to the rank of major-general, and assigned to the command of the Department of the Gulf. General Hurlbut was the first commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic; was appointed minister resident to the United States of Colombia by President Grant, and in 1881 was appointed United States minister to Peru, and died at Lima in the spring of the following year. Abraham Lincoln once said that Stephen A. Hurlbut was the ablest orator on the stump that Illinois had ever produced.

Hon. William Lathrop was elected in 1876, and is the only citizen of Rockford who held a seat in Congress. He served one term. John C. Sherwin of Aurora was elected in 1878, and re-elected in 1880.

By the apportionment of 1882 Winnebago County was attached to the Sixth district, and Hon. Robert R. Hitt was its representative for ten years. In 1893 Winnebago County became

a part of the Ninth district and Mr. Hitt also served this district ten years. Robert R. Hitt was born at Urbana, Ohio, January 16, 1834, and moved to Ogle County, Ill., in 1837. His first public work of note was the stenographic report of the famous Lincoln and Douglas debates in 1858. He was first United States secretary of legation and charge d'affaires ad interim, at Paris from 1874 to 1881. Mr. Hitt was assistant secretary of state of the United States in 1881, when James G. Blaine was at the head of the state department. Mr. Hitt's continuous service of twenty-four years in the House of Representatives gave him a national reputation. He was for several years chairman of the committee on foreign affairs and was considered one of the best authorities in this country on international law. In July, 1898, he was appointed by President McKinley a member of the commission to establish a government for Hawaii, upon its annexation to the United States. Mr. Hitt died September 20, 1906.

The apportionment of 1901 made Winnebago County a part of the Twelfth district. Judge Charles E. Fuller, of Belvidere, was nominated in 1902 without opposition and elected. He was re-elected in 1904, 1906, 1908 and 1910. The Roosevelt-Progressive tidal wave swept over the district in 1912, and William H. Hinebaugh, of La Salle, was elected by a plurality of 1,429. Two years later, in 1914, the Progressive movement became a spent force, and Congressman Fuller was returned, carrying every county in the district over Judge Hinebaugh.

E. B. Washburne, John F. Farnsworth, Robert R. Hitt and Charles E. Fuller represented the Rockford district in Congress exactly half a century. Rockford district has not been represented in Congress by a Democrat in sixty-three years, since the retirement of Thompson Campbell in 1853.

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

The state board of equalization was created by the legislature March 8, 1867, and, as originally constituted, consisted of one member from each of the twenty-five senatorial districts into which the state was then divided, to be appointed by the governor. In 1873 the law was changed and provided for the election of one member of each congressional district. Winnebago County has furnished two members of the



Mary L. Favor

board. Charles A. Works served one term, 1892 to 1896, from the Sixth district; and under the next congressional apportionment he served the Ninth district two terms, from 1896 to 1904. Edward H. Marsh was elected in 1904, and re-elected in 1908.

WINNEBAGO IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE.

When Germanicus Kent and Thatcher Blake settled in Rockford in 1834, what is now Winnebago County was a part of senatorial and representative districts which covered a large portion of northern Illinois. Under the apportionment of 1831 the counties of Peoria, Jo Daviess, Putnam, La Salle and Cook were united in one district, and had one senator and one representative. Winnebago County, having been organized from attached portions of La Salle and Jo Daviess, was included in this territory. At the election of 1832, James M. Strode was elected senator, and Benjamin Mills representative. In 1834 James W. Stephenson was chosen senator, but he resigned and James M. Strode was chosen his successor. John Hamlin was elected representative.

Winnebago County was organized in 1836, and continued to be attached to Jo Daviess County in all general elections until the apportionment of 1841. At the general election in 1836, A. G. S. Wright of Jo Daviess was elected senator, and Elijah Charles and James Craig were elected representatives. In 1838 George W. Harrison was chosen senator, and served the district until a new apportionment was made. Germanicus Kent of Winnebago and James Craig of Jo Daviess were elected representatives. In 1840 Thomas Drummond of Galena and Hiram W. Thornton of Jo Daviess were elected representatives.

The apportionment of February 26, 1841, provided that the county of Winnebago should have one representative, Ogle one representative, "and the two together one senator." The first election under this apportionment was held in 1842. Spooner Ruggles of Ogle County was elected senator, and served four years. Before his term had expired, however, Mr. Ruggles had become a citizen of Winnebago County. In 1846 Anson S. Miller was elected senator and served two years. In 1842 Darius Adams was elected representative from Winnebago County, and served one term. In 1844 Anson S. Miller was elected,

and served one term; and in 1846 Robert J. Cross was elected and served one term.

The constitution of 1848 divided the state into twenty-five senatorial districts, with one member each, and fifty-four representative districts, with a total of seventy-five members. Under this apportionment, McHenry, Boone and Winnebago counties constituted the Twenty-fourth senatorial district. At the first election, Alfred E. Ames of Winnebago County was elected senator. The senators, at their first session under the new constitution, were divided by lot into two classes. The seats of the first class were vacated at the expiration of the second year, and those of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year, so that one-half of the members were elected biennially. Mr. Ames drew the short term and served two years. In 1850 Thomas B. Talcott was elected senator, and served four years. Under this constitutional apportionment, Winnebago County constituted the Forty-seventh representative district, with one member. Wilson H. Crandall was elected in 1848, and served one term. Horace Miller was elected in 1850, and served one term. In 1852 Abraham I. Enoch was elected and served two years.

The act of February 27, 1854, apportioned representation in the general assembly at twenty-five senators and seventy-five members of the house, with fifty-eight representative districts. Boone, Winnebago, Ogle and Carroll comprised the Third senatorial district. At the election in November, 1854, Wait Talcott of Winnebago was elected senator for the Third district, and served the full term of four years. In 1858 Zenas Applington of Ogle was elected, and served four years.

The apportionment of 1854 made Winnebago county the Fifty-third representative district, with one member. In November of that year William Lyman of Rockford was elected, and served two years. In 1856 William Lathrop was elected and served one term. Elijah W. Blaisdell, Jr., was elected in 1858, the year of the famous Lincoln and Douglas debate. Mr. Blaisdell voted for Abraham Lincoln for United States senator. In 1860 Alfred A. Hale was elected and served one term.

APPORTIONMENT OF 1861.

By the act of January 31, 1861, the representation was fixed at twenty-five senators and

eighty-five members. The state was divided into twenty-five senatorial and sixty-one representative districts. Winnebago, Boone, McHenry and Lake constituted the Twenty-third senatorial district. At the first election on this basis, in 1862, Cornelius Lansing of McHenry was elected senator, and served three years. Senator Lansing died August 26, 1865. In 1866 General Allen C. Fuller of Belvidere was elected senator and was re-elected in 1870. Under the apportionment of 1861, Winnebago County was made the Fifty-fifth representative district, with one member. In 1862 Selden M. Church of Rockford was elected, and served one term. In 1864 William Brown of Rockford was elected, and served one term. Abraham I. Enoch was elected in 1866 and served one term. Ephraim Sumner was elected in 1868.

The representation in the twenty-seventh General Assembly, which convened January 4, 1871, was the first under the constitution of 1870, and was apportioned by the governor and secretary of state. There were 50 senators and 177 representatives. The state was divided into twenty-five senatorial districts, and ninety-seven representative districts. Winnebago, Boone, McHenry and Lake counties constituted the Twenty-third senatorial district. At the election of 1870 General Allen C. Fuller of Belvidere and John Early of Rockford were elected senators. Winnebago County was made the Ninety-first representative district, and at the election of 1870 James M. Wight and D. Emmons Adams were elected members of the house.

By the act of March 1, 1872, the state was divided into fifty-one senatorial districts, as provided by the constitution. Each district was entitled to one senator. Winnebago and Boone counties comprised the Ninth senatorial district. At the general election in 1872 John Early of Rockford was elected senator for the Ninth district. The constitution of 1870 provided that senators elected in 1872 in districts bearing odd numbers should vacate their offices at the expiration of two years. Mr. Early was re-elected in 1874 for the full term of four years, but died while in office, in September, 1877. In 1878 Charles E. Fuller of Belvidere was elected senator, after a notable triangular contest.

Under the new constitution senatorial and representative districts became identical for the first time in the history of the state. Each district was entitled to three representatives.

In 1872 Robert J. Cross and Duncan J. Stewart of Winnebago County, and Jesse S. Hildrup of Boone County, were elected representatives for the Ninth senatorial district. Mr. Cross died in office, and Richard F. Crawford was chosen to complete his term. In 1874 Andrew Ashton and Richard F. Crawford of Winnebago, and Myron K. Avery of Boone were elected. George H. Hollister, John Budlong and Andrew Ashton, all of Winnebago County, were elected in 1876. In 1878 Omar H. Wright of Boone, and Thomas Butterworth and Horace W. Taylor of Winnebago were elected. In 1880 Edward B. Sumner of Winnebago and Omar H. Wright of Belvidere were elected as Republicans, and Laurence McDonald of Winnebago was the Democratic minority representative.

By the apportionment act of May, 1882, Winnebago and Ogle counties were united in the Tenth senatorial district. The first election under this apportionment was held in 1882. Isaac Rice of Ogle County, the hold-over senator from the old Twelfth district, had two years to serve, as it is a principle of our present constitutional law that no man can be legislated out of office. There was, therefore, no election of senator until 1884, when Edward B. Sumner was elected for the full term of four years. Benjamin E. Sheets of Ogle County, succeeded Mr. Sumner in 1888, and served four years. In 1892 David Hunter of Winnebago was elected and served four years. In 1882 Albert F. Brown and John Seyster of Ogle, and Edward B. Sumner of Winnebago were elected representatives for the Tenth district. Albert F. Brown, Republican, of Ogle, David Hunter, Republican, of Winnebago, and Edward M. Winslow, Democrat, of Ogle, were elected in 1884. In 1886 David Hunter of Winnebago, James Lamont of Winnebago, Prohibitionist, and James P. Wilson, Republican, of Ogle, were elected representatives. From 1888 to 1890 David Hunter and Robert Simpson of Winnebago, and Wm. H. Cox of Ogle represented the district. In 1890 James P. Wilson and Prescott Talbot of Ogle, and David Hunter of Winnebago were elected. In 1892 James P. Wilson and Prescott H. Talbot of Ogle County, and Lars M. Noling of Winnebago were elected representatives.

By the apportionment act of June 15, 1893, Winnebago and Ogle counties were continued as the Tenth district. The first election for senator under this apportionment was held in

1896, when Delos W. Baxter of Rochelle was elected senator for the full term. In 1900 Henry Andrus, of Winnebago, was elected senator. The first election for representatives under this apportionment was in 1894, when Lars M. Noling and C. Harry Woolsey of Winnebago, and Victor H. Bovey of Ogle were elected for this district. In 1896 Lars M. Noling and Henry Andrus of Winnebago, and Victor H. Bovey of Ogle, all Republicans, were elected. In 1898 Henry Andrus and Frank S. Regan, of Winnebago, and James A. Countryman, of Ogle, were elected. In 1900 James A. Countryman and James P. Wilson of Ogle, and David Hunter of Winnebago were elected.

By the act of May 10, 1901, Winnebago and Ogle counties were for a third time made the Tenth senatorial district.

At the election in 1902 Frederick Haines, Republican, of Winnebago, Johnson Lawrence, Republican, of Ogle, and James P. Wilson, Democrat, of Ogle, were chosen representatives. In 1904 A. J. Anderson, Republican, of Winnebago, was elected senator. Mr. Haines was returned to the house. His colleagues were W. B. McHenry, Republican, of Ogle and Charles E. Martin, Democrat, of Winnebago. Earl D. Reynolds, Republican, of Winnebago, Johnson Lawrence, and James H. Corcoran, Democrat, of Winnebago, represented the district in the house from 1906 to 1908. Henry Andrus, Republican, of Winnebago, was chosen senator in 1908. There was no change in the members of the house. The election of 1910 resulted in the choice of three new members in the house: John A. Atwood and John Coleman, Republican and Democrat, respectively, of Ogle, and Alexander Collier, Republican, of Winnebago.

No re-apportionment of the state followed the census of 1910. Henry Andrus was re-elected senator in 1912 and Mr. Atwood and Mr. Coleman were returned to the house. The third member was A. J. Lovejoy, Republican of Winnebago. The present members of the house, elected in 1914 are: E. A. Festerling, Republican, of Winnebago; H. S. Hicks, Progressive, of Winnebago, and John A. Atwood. Mr. Hicks and Medill McCormick are the only Progressive members in the lower branch. For the first time in many years the Tenth district is without a Democratic member in either branch of the General Assembly.

CHAPTER XIV.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

FREE EDUCATION AGITATION—ORDINANCE OF 1787—FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL LAW—NUMEROUS REVISIONS—STATE SCHOOL FUNDS—LANDS DONATED BY CONGRESS—SALES OF LAND—FIRST PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY—FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOLS—OTHER EARLY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS—ILLINOIS PUBLIC SCHOOL LAW—HISTORY OF ROCKFORD SCHOOLS—EAST SIDE DISTRICT—WEST SIDE DISTRICT—EARLY EDUCATORS—PUBLIC SCHOOL REORGANIZATION—BOARD OF EDUCATION LITIGATION—THE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL A CREDIT TO THE CITY—LIST OF PRINCIPALS—PRESENT SUPERINTENDENT—TRIBUTE TO A MAN OF WORTH—PAGEANT AND PARADES—PASSING OF A VETERAN EDUCATOR—STATISTICS—BOARD OF EDUCATION—COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS—COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS SINCE 1837—A PROGRESSIVE EDUCATOR—FATHER OF THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS—PRESENT COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT—PRESENT CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS—TRAVELING LIBRARIES—TOWNSHIP GRADUATION EXERCISES—CERTIFICATES AND DIPLOMAS—SCHOOL SOCIAL ACTIVITIES.

FREE EDUCATIONAL AGITATION.

The public school system of Winnebago County had its beginning in national and state legislation. The foundations of the system were laid more than a century ago, about four years before the United States entered upon national life under the constitution. On May 20, 1785, an ordinance was passed by Congress, then assembled in New York, for a system of rectangular surveys of the lands in the "western territory," and it was therein provided "that there shall be reserved the lot number sixteen of every township for the maintenance of public schools within the township." The territory thus designated was the Northwest Territory, from which Illinois was created.

The Ordinance of 1787, for the government of the Northwest Territory, provided that "religion, morality and knowledge . . . shall forever be encouraged." The next step was in 1818, when Illinois sought admission into the Union. In April of that year Congress passed an act

enabling the people of the territory of Illinois to organize a state. Certain propositions were therein made to the convention of the territory, which, if accepted, would be binding upon the state and the federal government. Three of these referred to education. First: "that section number sixteen or its equivalent in every congressional township shall be granted to the state, for the use of schools in such township." Second: "that three per cent. of the net proceeds from the sales of all the public lands in the state shall be given to the state for the encouragement of learning, of which one-sixth part shall be exclusively bestowed on a college or university." Third: "that two entire townships in the state, to be designated by the president of the United States, shall be reserved for the use of a seminary." These propositions were accepted and on December 3, 1818, Congress approved the constitution. Thus Illinois came into the Union with these valuable grants of land for the maintenance of education.

FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL LAW.

By the term "early schools" is meant those schools which were maintained under various laws of the state prior to 1855. The first public school law was passed in 1825, seven years after Illinois became a state. Common schools were established free to white citizens between the ages of five and twenty-one. Districts containing not less than fifteen families could be formed by the county courts, upon petition of a majority of the voters thereof. Voters were authorized at the annual meeting to levy a tax in money or merchantable produce, at its cash value, not exceeding one-half of one per cent., subject to a maximum limitation of \$10 to any one person. The state also appropriated \$2 out of every \$100 received into the treasury, and disbursed the interest on the school fund proper among the several counties; and these sums were distributed by the counties among the respective districts. This law was bitterly opposed, and in 1827 it was amended so as to be virtually nullified, by providing that no person should be taxed for the maintenance of schools, unless his consent was first obtained in writing. The state appropriation was also withdrawn. The school laws were revised at nearly every session of the legislature. These were all radically defective in that the state

did not impose a tax, but made it discretionary with the districts whether such a tax should be levied.

The *school fund proper* of Illinois consists of three per cent. of the net proceeds of the sales of the public lands in the state, one-sixth part excepted. This is known as the *three per cent. fund, or school fund proper*. Under an act of February 6, 1835, this fund was loaned to the state at six per cent. interest. The interest on this fund constitutes one of the sources from which the common school fund of the state is derived. The principal of this fund is now \$613,362.96.

The *college fund* consists of one-sixth of three per cent. of the proceeds of the sales of public lands in the state. This fund was also loaned to the state in 1835. In the same year it was provided that the interest on this fund should be annually loaned to the school fund, for distribution with other funds, among the several counties in the state. The interest on this fund, less one-fourth of one per cent., was set apart to the maintenance of the State Normal University, on February 18, 1857. The principal of this fund is \$156,613.32.

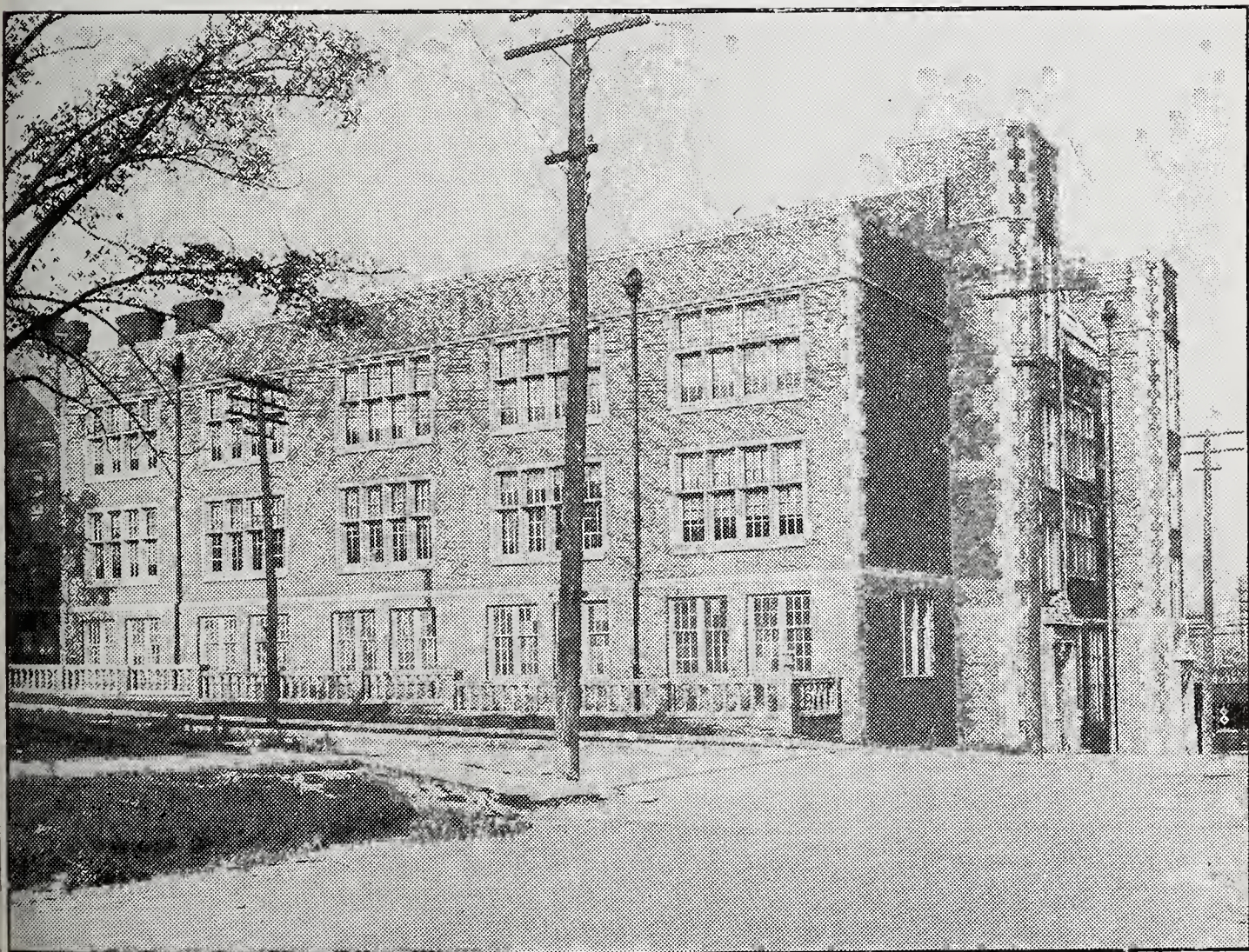
The *university fund* is the amount charged to the state by an act of the General Assembly, approved June 11, 1897, including \$18,440.00 derived from sale of lands. This fund is \$649,012.91.

The *seminary fund* is derived from the proceeds of the sale of "seminary lands," which consist of two townships given the state by the general government, for the founding and support of a state seminary. This fund was also loaned to the state in 1835. In the same year it was provided that the interest on this fund should be annually loaned to the state school fund. In 1857 the interest on this fund, less one-fourth of one per cent., was devoted to the maintenance of the normal university. The principal of this fund is \$59,838.72.

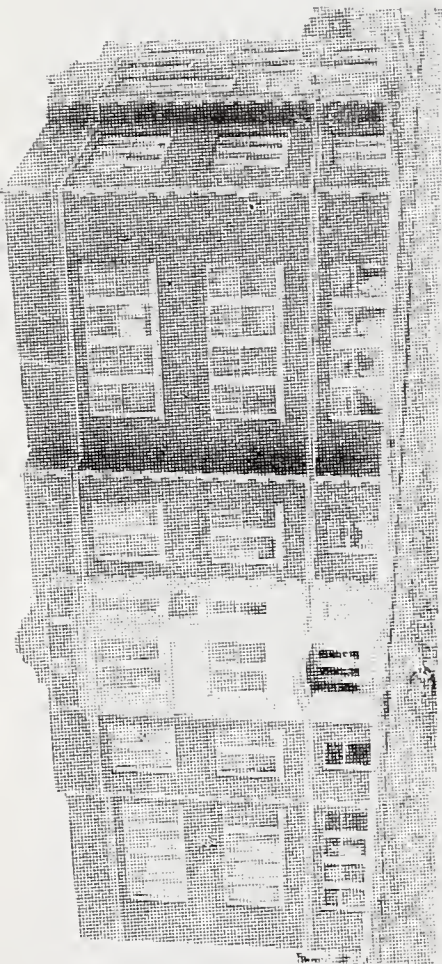
The *surplus revenue fund* was created by Congress in 1836, by an act which deposited with the states, in proportion to their representation in Congress, the money that had accumulated in the national treasury, mainly from the sale of public lands. Prior to this act an unsuccessful effort had been made to distribute this money among the states as a gift from the nation. The objections to this plan were overcome by depositing the money with the states, subject to



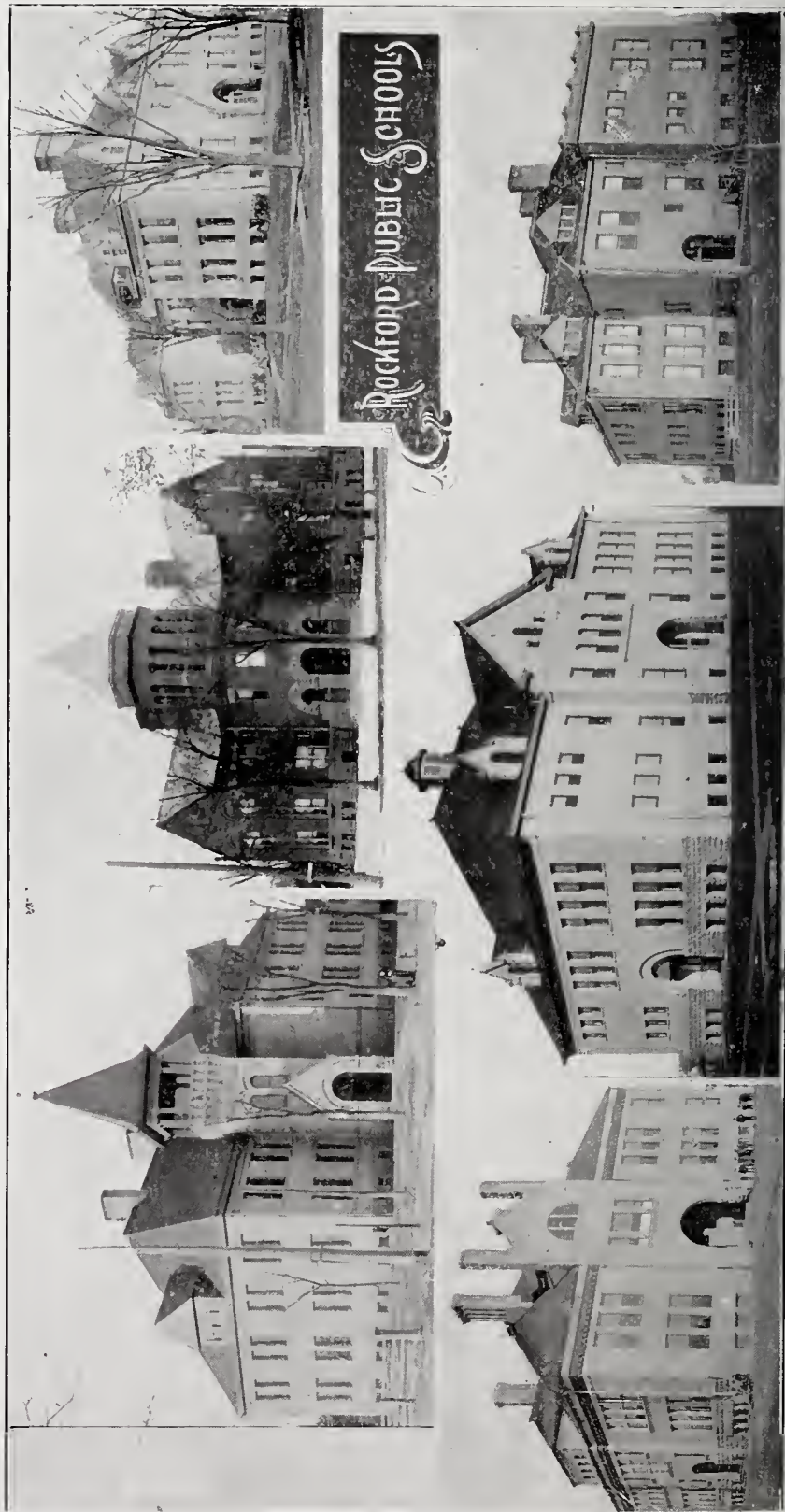
GARRISON SCHOOL, ROCKFORD



ROCKFORD HIGH SCHOOL—NEW NORTH BUILDING



T. A. PETERSON SCHOOL, ROCKFORD



Kishwaukee
Wight

Lincoln
Turner

Henry Freeman
Brown

return upon call of Congress. About \$28,000,000 were distributed among the states in this way, and none of it has ever been called for. Illinois received \$177,919.24. A portion of this amount was expended in internal improvements, and the balance, \$335,592.32, was by an act of the legislature of March 4, 1837, made a part of the common school fund of the state, and loaned to the state at six per cent.

The most munificent donation from Congress was the sixteenth section of every congressional township. This amounted to 998,448.89 acres. It has been said that if these lands had been properly cared for, they would have given the people such an ample public school fund as would have saved them from local taxation. The local sale of these lands and the handling of such funds were delegated to township trustees by the law of the state. The principal of this fund varies in different townships, from less than \$100 to more than \$100,000. Unfortunately, most of these lands were sold at an early day, when the people were poor and prices low. Some township trustees were wiser, and held them for higher prices. The township fund of the state, September 30, 1915, was \$19,356,530.71.

A local fund is derived from fines and forfeitures. In 1853 the fines collected and criminal forfeitures on bail were added to the school fund. These laws have been changed from time to time. The statute of 1913 provides that all fines, penalties and forfeitures which may be imposed in any of the courts of record, and before any justice of the peace, except those incurred for violation of the ordinances of incorporated cities and towns, shall be collected by the state's attorney, and by him turned into the county treasury. From this fund is paid all the expenses of the state's attorney's office, and the balance is paid to the county superintendent of schools, and the same shall be distributed annually by him, in the same manner as the common school funds of the state are distributed.

Congress granted to the states of the Union, September 28, 1850, all overflowed and swamp lands, thereby made unfit for cultivation, within their respective limits. These lands were subject to the disposal of the legislature, provided that so much of the proceeds of such sales as may be necessary shall be devoted to reclaiming the same by levees and drains. By an act of

the legislature, June 22, 1852, these lands were granted to the counties in which they were respectively located, upon similar terms upon which the state had received them, for educational or other purposes, at their discretion. The state auditor of public accounts in 1855, certified that 1,801.9 acres was the total amount of such lands in Winnebago County. In March, 1855, the board of supervisors appointed Duncan Ferguson, Milton Kilburn and Edmund Oviatt a committee to examine these lands, and report. These swamp lands were located in townships 28, 29, and 43. Many of them were near the village of Winnebago. These lands were first sold by C. A. Huntington, the school commissioner, at high prices, and during prosperous times. Little cash was paid, and the purchasers gave mortgages for the balance. Values declined, and the purchasers could not redeem their property. Thereupon the supervisors ordered them resold, which was done by H. H. Waldo, who succeeded Mr. Huntington as school commissioner, for about what they were actually worth. Through some obscurity in the statutes of 1852 and 1854 upon the subject, there was prolonged litigation as to whether the proceeds should constitute a county fund, or be distributed among the townships. The money finally passed into the control of the superintendent as a county fund. The principal of this fund in Winnebago County is \$5,980.06. By way of recapitulation it may be said the principal state and local funds for the support of higher and common school education are now as follows: Direct state taxation, direct local taxation, school fund proper, college fund, seminary fund, surplus revenue fund, township fund, fines and forfeitures, and the swamp land fund.

FIRST SCHOOLS IN COUNTY.

The first school in Winnebago County was taught by Miss Eunice Brown, who afterward became Mrs. J. G. Lyon. This school was on the site of 110 South Second street, Rockford, in the rear of what was known as the John Early residence, and taught in a log house. This was about July, 1837. In the spring of 1838 Miss Brown taught on the West side, in a building on what is now the courthouse square. Mrs. Lyon died at her home in Rockton, December 7, 1889. Rockford had many excellent private schools between 1837 and 1857. The teachers

were paid mainly by the parents, making out their own bills and collecting them. There was then no regular state or local tax, and the only public school money was derived from the interest on the several state school funds, and the township fund obtained from the sale of the sixteenth section. Private teachers, who conformed to certain requirements of the law, received some compensation from the public money, in proportion to the number of pupils under their instruction.

FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The early public school records of Rockford Township have been lost. It is therefore impossible to obtain exact information. There appears, however, to have been a school district, with a schoolhouse, on each side of the river. The East side public school was in the brick building on the southeast corner of the public square. This schoolhouse was erected at an early date, by private subscription. A sum of money was once raised to build a second public schoolhouse on the East side; but it was never erected. The money was finally paid into the municipal treasury, upon the order of the city council. John A. Holland and others built a schoolhouse for private pupils, on South West street. It was occupied exclusively by the children of those who erected it. It was therefore not a large school, but somewhat exclusive. The contract was made with Seely Perry for furnishing building material.

Another schoolhouse was on South Main street on the site of the Stewart building. When Sarah A. Stewart taught there in 1850 she had as pupils Levi Moulthrop, H. N. Starr, H. P. Holland, Mrs. J. P. Manny, George Manlove, John W. Taylor, Jr., and W. F. Stewart. Miss Stewart was a sister of the late D. J. Stewart, Sr., and became the wife of Thomas D. Robertson. The Second Congregational church was organized in this schoolhouse. It was later moved a few yards south and used as a blacksmith shop. It was torn down when Mrs. Brill's block was erected. There was also a small schoolhouse on the south side of Green street, between Church and Court. It was a white frame building. Abbie Parker, a sister of G. W. Parker, taught there at one time.

H. P. Kimball was principal of a classical institute, in the basement of the First Baptist

church, from 1855 to 1856. A score of students left this institution and entered eastern colleges. Two years' study was considered sufficient to advance pupils through a full preparatory course of mathematics and the usual books in Latin and Greek, giving them a sufficient and thorough preparation. Seely Perry taught a preparatory school for young men about a year and a half, in the First Methodist church. At this school quite a number of students prepared for college. Among these were the late Dr. Selwyn Clark; Alexander Kerr, for many years *emeritus* professor of Greek in the University of Wisconsin; Rev. John Edwards, brother of Mrs. Clemens. On account of ill health, Mr. Perry turned over the school to a brother of Dr. E. P. Catlin.

ILLINOIS PUBLIC SCHOOL LAW.

The free public school system of Illinois dates from 1855. In December, 1853, a large common school convention met at Jerseyville, composed of many adjoining counties, and one at Bloomington, for the whole state. These movements produced results. The General Assembly, which met the following February, separated the office of state superintendent of public instruction from that of secretary of state, and made it a distinct department of the state government. The state superintendent was required to draft a bill embodying a system of free education for all the children of the state, and report to the next General Assembly. On March 15, 1854, Governor Matteson appointed Hon. N. W. Edwards, state superintendent. In the following January Mr. Edwards presented a bill which became a law February 15, 1855. For state purposes the school tax was fixed at two mills on the \$100. To this was added the interest from the permanent school fund. A free school was required to be maintained for at least six months in each year, and it was made imperative upon the directors of every school district to levy the necessary tax. Thus the free school system of Illinois began when the taxing power of the state was invoked in its behalf. The school law was bitterly opposed, and narrowly escaped repeal. Sir William Berkeley, the royal governor of Virginia, said in 1670: "I thank God there are no free schools nor printing, and I hope we shall not have these in a hundred years." The spirit of this pious wish prevailed in

southern Illinois; and there was a repetition of the old conflict between the two distinct classes of people in the two portions of the state. The southern portion was poor, while the northern portion was well-to-do; and it was only as it was made to appear to the southern portion that it was receiving more from the state school fund than it was contributing, that the people acquiesced in the law.

HISTORY OF ROCKFORD SCHOOLS.

The charter of 1854 had conferred upon the city council of Rockford full power over its schools, and on June 20, 1855, the council passed its first school ordinance under the new school law. The city was divided into two school districts: East side and West side, designated Nos. 1 and 2. A board of school inspectors was appointed, consisting of George Haskell, A. S. Miller, and Jason Marsh, after whom the Marsh school was named. In December the board voted to purchase of A. W. Freeman his lease of the basement of the First Baptist church for a school in district number two. Mr. Freeman was employed to teach at \$800 per year. At the same time H. Sabin was engaged for the first district, and the old courthouse on the East side was leased. The council had provided by ordinance for a school agent for each district, whose acts were to be approved by the council, and the present sites of the Adams and Lincoln schools were purchased and on August 14, 1857, occurred the formal dedication of the two union school buildings. Previous to this time Rockford had no schoolhouse of its own.

The first district school had three principals from 1857 to 1884. The first was Orlando C. Blackmer, who was appointed March 10, 1857. His assistant was S. F. Penfield, and Mrs. Ralph Emerson, before her marriage, was also a teacher. Mr. Blackmer was a graduate of Williams College. After he left Rockford he became a member of the firm of Adams, Blackmer & Lyon, the first publishers of *The Sunday School Times*. His last years were spent at Oak Park, where he died suddenly January 5, 1913. He was a brother of Mrs. N. C. Thompson.

Henry Freeman, Mr. Blackmer's successor, was a native of Massachusetts, born within twenty miles of Plymouth Rock. He was graduated at Andover, Mass., in 1839. In 1859 the board of school inspectors invited Prof. Freeman, who

had filled many educational positions, to take the position of principal and superintendent of schools at East Rockford, at a salary of \$1,000 a year. This position he filled twenty-one years, until he resigned in 1880. During this long service hundreds of pupils came under the influence of the principal, and his strong character was a potent factor in promoting that which was for the best interest of the pupils. The third and last principal was Prof. A. W. McPherson, who remained until 1884.

George G. Lyon was chosen principal of the Second school district March 10, 1857. The old pupils of Prof. Lyon had the pleasure of honoring his memory by planting the Lyon elm on the Lincoln school grounds, on April 22, 1904. They gathered in the schoolhouse, and after a short program in the presence of the present teachers and scholars, they planted the tree. Mrs. H. P. Holland paid her old instructor a splendid tribute. She said, in part: "Mr. Lyon possessed in a great degree the power of kindling the sacred flame of learning in the minds and hearts of his scholars. . . . It has been said there is no royal road to learning. There is a royal road; it is the road which a royal teacher makes. Such a teacher was George G. Lyon, for whom we plant this tree, the Lyon elm." Prof. Lyon was succeeded in 1863 by E. M. Fernald, who was succeeded in 1865 by E. D. Weller. Prof. Blodgett became principal of the West side school in September, 1866, and held this position fifteen years. He had served his country in the Civil war as captain of Company E, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

There is a story of Prof. Blodgett of unusual human interest. When Robert P. Porter came to Rockford about 1872 to begin his newspaper career on the *Gazette*, he was poor and friendless. His only capital was energy and ambition. Prof. Blodgett loaned him books and befriended him in other ways. After Prof. Blodgett left Rockford he was for five years editor of the publications of the United States Geological Survey. Mr. Porter forged rapidly to the front, and in 1890 he was appointed by President Harrison superintendent of the census. He remembered his former benefactor and appointed him a special agent to collect statistics of education throughout the United States. Prof. Blodgett occupied a responsible position for many years in the Interior Department. His last years were

spent in retirement in Washington, D. C., where he died May 25, 1916, at the age of 84 years.

Prof. W. W. Stetson became principal in 1881. He left Rockford in 1884 and became school superintendent for the state of Maine.

By 1857 a small frame structure had been erected in South Rockford as a schoolhouse. This was soon enlarged, and was later superseded by a stone structure, now known as Kent school. Thomas Sherratt and a Mr. Munson were early principals. Mr. Sweet, another early principal, went to California and there died. This school for the greater part of the intervening time has been in charge of one man. Prof. O. F. Barbour, a native of Ohio, came to Rockford in 1859, and was for a time engaged in the dry goods business. In September, 1866, he became principal of the Kent school, and retained this position nearly half a century. Later reference will be made to Prof. Barbour in this chapter. Upon his death Miss Lillian Dales was appointed principal of Kent school.

PUBLIC SCHOOL REORGANIZATION.

The general law of 1872 for the incorporation of cities was silent on the school question, and when Rockford was organized under the general law, it retained the school features of its special charter. The movement for a re-organization of the public schools of Rockford began in the summer of 1883. In July a petition was drafted, to be presented to the city council, asking that body to submit to the voters the question of reorganizing under the general free school law of 1872. Little or no progress appears to have been made until March of the following year, when a second petition was circulated and signed by a large number of representative citizens. Meanwhile, however, the leaven of agitation was at work. The fact had been realized for several years that the board of school inspectors in 1861 increased from three to five members, did not possess adequate powers. It had no authority to levy taxes and its functions were otherwise limited. The board was practically an educational committee of the council, and its action was subject to review by the higher body. Popular agitation was intensified by a bitter newspaper controversy. On March 17, 1884, Hon. Alfred Taggart, mayor of Rockford, addressed a special message to the city council, in which he reviewed the state

school law in detail and severely criticized the act in so far as it might be made to apply to Rockford. Mr. Taggart maintained that the remedy for existing defects in the local system was not in abandoning the provisions of the city charter for the general school law; but in consolidating the two school districts of the city into one district, and making it co-extensive with its corporate limits, with all the schools under the supervision of a general superintendent. Mayor Taggart was thoroughly versed in school law, was an able executive, and withal a forceful personality. His special message changed the tide of public opinion so completely that the city council, at its meeting of April 7, passed an ordinance making Rockford one school district. When the municipal election was held in April the people rejected the state school law by a majority of more than 1,200 votes and thus sustained the mayor and council. Rapid progress was made during the remainder of the year. The mayor subsequently appointed H. N. Baker and A. A. Morse as inspectors. Their associates were Dr. F. H. Kimball, Prof. M. S. Bebb and Thomas Buchanan. Upon these gentlemen devolved the duty of launching the Central High school.

P. R. Walker, of Rochelle, was appointed principal teacher for the city schools at a salary of \$1,800 per year. The title of the office was subsequently changed to superintendent. At the time of Superintendent Walker's appointment a school census, just completed showed Rockford had a population of 8,850 under twenty-one years of age.

THE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL.

The faculty of the Central High school was organized by the appointment of Prof. A. W. McPherson as principal at a salary of \$1,300 per year; Miss May Frye, assistant principal, and Miss Jennie Waldo and Miss Anna Lathrop, teachers. It is a notable fact that after a lapse of more than thirty years, Miss Waldo is still a teacher in the high school. This record has no parallel in the history of the institution. Miss Lathrop is now Mrs. Anna Lathrop Case, of National avenue. Rooms on the second floor of what was then 113 West State street were leased for the use of the high school. The owner was Mrs. Mary P. Starr, and the rental was \$300 for one year from August 1, 1884, with the priv-



EDWARD FITCH



MRS. EDWARD FITCH

ilege of one or two additional years. These rooms are over Smith & Sons' shoe store. It was in such modest quarters that the Central High school of Rockford was opened September 1, 1884, with about 150 pupils.

The selection of a site for a central building involved the inevitable struggle between the two sides of the river. The site chosen was known as the Thurston lots on South Madison street, for which \$5,000 was paid. The cost of the building was in round numbers \$25,000. This is an insignificant sum compared with many of the later grade schools. The high school building was formally dedicated March 18, 1886.

The first addition to the high school was built in 1900, the second in 1906, and the third in 1914. The latest addition, a beautiful structure and splendidly equipped, was formally opened December 4, 1914, when it was estimated five thousand people were present. Addresses were made by Superintendent Jones; Mrs. E. S. Gregory, a member of the board; R. K. Welsh, former president of the board; and C. P. Briggs, principal of the high school. There are four floors and basement in the third addition. The basement is devoted to swimming pool; gymnasium, 50 by 70 feet, with running track, 24 laps to the mile; and supply room. On the ground floor are the wood-working shop and glue room; stock preparation room for wood-working shop; library room, with shelves for 3,000 volumes. On the first floor are the administration offices of the city schools, eight recitation rooms and training room for teachers. The second floor accommodates the commercial department and ten recitation rooms. The third floor has three drawing rooms and blue print room. This addition cost approximately \$235,000. This figure includes a new heating plant, which provides heat for the entire high school, and changes made in the heating apparatus of the original high school building, the one adjoining the last addition. W. H. Cook was the contractor of this addition..

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS.

The Rockford Central High School has been served by six principals. Prof. A. W. McPherson resigned at the end of the school year in 1885. His last years were spent in Rockford, where he died February 15, 1912. He was highly esteemed as an educator and Christian gentle-

man. The second principal was Charles A. Smith, a graduate of Amherst College, who remained five years, resigning in November, 1890, but continued his work as an educator after leaving Rockford. He died several years ago.

Walter A. Edwards was appointed principal November 15, 1890, and began his duties the following January. Prof. Edwards was a son of Richard Edwards, at one time state superintendent of public instruction for Illinois. He was born at Normal, Ill., September 17, 1862, and was graduated from Knox College in 1883. He came to Rockford from Decatur, and remained four years. Prof. Edwards resigned in 1895. He is now head of the classical department of the high school in Los Angeles, Cal. Prof. B. D. Parker became principal in 1895 and remained nine years. Prof. Ellis U. Graff was the next principal. He came to Rockford in 1904 and remained four years. He is now superintendent of schools in Omaha, Neb.

Prof. C. P. Briggs, the incumbent, came to Rockford in September, 1908. Miss Harriet Morse, who has been connected with the high school more than half a century, is assistant principal.

BOARD OF EDUCATION LITIGATION.

There was no change in the system of school management for more than twenty years after the consolidation of 1884. Before the end of that period a feeling developed that the schools of the city could be more efficiently managed either by an appointed or an elected board of education wholly independent of the city council and vested with full control of the school system. In 1906 a group of public-spirited citizens associated themselves together with a view to bringing about such a change. The act of 1879, which applied to school systems being operated under special charters, seemed to offer an opportunity for a change to an appointive board. This law provided for the appointment by the mayor with the approval of the council, of a board of education consisting of ten members and a president. Two of the members were to be chosen from each ward, and the president from the city at large. Five of the members first appointed were to serve for one year, and five for two years, and thereafter all for two years. The president was appointed for one year. On November 19, 1906, after the courts had passed

upon the question at issue between the advocates of an independent board and the city council, Mayor Jackson appointed a full board, as follows:

L. M. Noling, president; First Ward, B. A. Slade and R. C. Lind; Second Ward, A. P. Floberg and Elwyn W. Chandler; Third Ward, Laura P. Gregory and A. G. Everett; Fourth Ward, W. K. Welsh and W. F. Barnes; Fifth Ward, Pearl Biller and Dr. T. H. Culhane.

The test cases which caused this change constitute an interesting feature of Rockford school history.

The questions of whether or not the schools of the city were being legally managed, and whether or not the law of 1879, providing for an independent board, applied, were raised at the instigation of the association above referred to, in two different cases. These cases were conducted by and in the name of R. K. Welsh, for several years president of the board of education. They were defended by the then legal department of the city. The first case arose by filing objections to the school tax on small piece of real estate, claiming that the city council was without power to initiate a levy of taxes for school purposes. This was heard in County Court, Judge DeWolf of Boone County presiding, in June, 1906, and was decided in favor of the objector, the court holding that the council did not have the power of managing the schools, but that it was properly vested in a board under the Act of 1879.

The second case was in the form of a *quo warranto* proceeding in the Circuit Court against the members of the city council and school inspectors to compel them to show by what authority they were managing the schools. Upon a hearing of this case before Judge Frost in November, 1906, the court held that the Council and inspectors were without legal authority to manage the schools and that a board ought to be appointed under the Act of 1879. Prior to this decision, of Judge Frost, the city had caused an appeal to be taken in the first case to the Supreme Court. At the time of Judge Frost's decision this appeal was pending. Mayor Jackson, however, having confidence in Judge Frost's interpretation of the law, immediately appointed the new board as above indicated. In February, 1907, the first case was decided by the Supreme Court, the latter court affirming the decision of Judge DeWolf. The opinion in this case is reported in Volume 225 of the Supreme Court

Reports, at Page 364. This ended all the litigation and firmly established the legality of the new board.

The school board, as chosen, was obliged to make another legal fight a few years later, May 5, 1913, when Mayor Bennett presented names for members of the board of education, the appointments were hung up by a majority vote of the city council. It was contended that the board was an elective rather than an appointive body and that the validity of the acts of the board was involved. To settle the question a decision was asked from Attorney General Lucey. Pending his opinion Mayor Bennett, at the next meeting of the council, withdrew his nominations, in order to extend to the opposing aldermen the courtesy of securing a ruling from the attorney-general.

During the incumbency of Attorney-General Stead, it was his uniform rule to refer all school questions to the state superintendent. When Mr. Lucey succeeded to the office he followed the precedent established by Mr. Stead, and when opinion was sought he turned the matter over to the state superintendent, who promptly reaffirmed an opinion given by him in December, 1911, that boards of education in Rockford are appointive. The superintendent's decision was a thorough review of the case. The contention, however, was continued, and July 25, 1913, Judge Arthur H. Frost, of the Winnebago County Circuit court, handed down a decision in the controversy over the legality of the school board, brought by Swan O. Widell in the name of the people against R. K. Welsh, president of the board, and the ten additional members of the body.

The court held that the board is legally constituted. His opinion was given in writing and the entire case was reviewed in its various angles.

It has been contended by those who favor an elective board that the law of July 1, 1903, and amended by the law of 1911, repealed the law of 1879, under which Rockford schools are now operated. Superintendent Blair, in his opinion, held that the law of 1911 did not apply to Rockford, and that the act of 1879 was still in force. The law of 1911 applies to only two cities in the state, Springfield and Quincy. The validity of the board, as now constituted, is therefore unassailable.

GRADE SCHOOLS.

Previous to the re-organization of the schools in 1884, the ten grade schoolhouses were simply designated by the wards in which they were severally located. Superintendent Walker, as he became acquainted with the history of the city, advised the naming of the several schools in honor of Rockford citizens, and with two exceptions, the board of education adopted this policy.

The West side high school, built in 1857, was called the Lincoln, in honor of Abraham Lincoln. It was rebuilt in 1892 at a cost of \$35,000. The East Rockford high school, also built in 1857, was christened the Adams, in honor of John Quincy Adams, the sixth president of the United States. In 1893 the old stone structure was razed and a two-story brick building erected at a cost of \$40,000. In 1904 about \$5,000 was expended in a steam heating plant and a system of fan ventilation. This building was re-christened the Henry Freeman, for the former principal of the East side high school. The Chestnut street school, erected in an early day and rebuilt in 1899, was called the Blake, for Thatcher Blake, one of the first two settlers of Rockford. The West State street school, built in 1868, was named the Ellis, in honor of Colonel E. F. W. Ellis, who was killed in the battle of Shiloh in April, 1862. The Ellis was rebuilt on Elm street, and the old structure formed the nucleus of the St. Thomas Catholic high school. The Fourth Ward building was erected in 1874 and perpetuates the memory of Dr. George Haskell, who came to Rockford in 1838. The Fifth Ward school, built in 1858, was called the Kent, after Germanicus Kent, the founder of Rockford. The Court street building in South Rockford, built in 1883, and enlarged in 1892, bears the name of Richard Montague, a pioneer of 1835. The First Ward school, built in 1866, and rebuilt in 1892, was named in honor of John Hall, an early member of the board of education. The old Ninth street school, erected in 1881, perpetuates the name of the famous inventor, John Nelson. This building has been abandoned and a new structure erected on the corner of Fifth avenue and Fourteenth street. The school in the Sixth Ward, built in 1872, was christened the Marsh, in honor of Colonel Jason Marsh.

Ten grade school buildings have also been erected since the district consolidation of 1884.

These, with two exceptions, bear the names of prominent citizens of Rockford. The Wight school, built in 1889, is named in honor of James M. Wight, a prominent barrister, member of the constitutional convention of 1870, and a member of the legislature. The Garrison school, built in 1887, and enlarged in 1892, is named for Thomas Garrison, who came to Rockford from New Jersey in 1853 and purchased a large tract of land north of the city. Mr. Garrison died October 6, 1871. The Brown school, erected in 1892, derives its name from Judge William Brown, who held several offices of public trust, and was for twenty years a judge of the Circuit court. The Church school was built in 1894, and perpetuates the memory of Judge Selden M. Church, an early settler, postmaster, member of the legislature and judge of the County court. A large addition was built in 1914. The Kishwaukee school was built in 1896 and gets its name from the street on which it stands, which, in turn, is derived from Kishwaukee River. Kishwaukee is an Indian name. The Turner school was built in 1898, and derives its name from J. M. Turner, a supervisor and alderman. Mr. Turner, in recognition of this honor, gave the school a bell. The Jackson school was completed in 1904, and is named for Charles E. Jackson, who was mayor of the city when the building was erected. The Peterson school was opened April 1, 1912. It received its name from P. A. Peterson. The Walker school is a memorial for P. R. Walker, and was opened in January, 1913. The Highland school was not erected by the city, but became its property by the annexation of Highland. Of these twenty grade schools all except three teach eight grades. Haskell and Marsh are four-grade schools, and Highland has seven grades.

Rockford's steady growth has been manifest in the schools. Pressing needs have called for speedy adaptations of the system to keep pace with ideals of modern education. Playgrounds are being extended; provision has been made for deficient, backward, and superior pupils; departmental teaching is now extended through all the schools. Plans for organized physical training throughout the elementary grades are now under way. Only through constant attention can the schools be prepared to meet the commercial and industrial demands of the city. Rockford's growth has necessitated remodeling of old school buildings and the erection of new.

In all cases the new constructions have been worthy of the best ideals.

PRESENT SUPERINTENDENT.

On June 30, 1913, the Rockford Board of Education appointed Robinson G. Jones superintendent of schools. Mr. Jones was born at Kansas City, Kans. The enforced wandering, incident to his father's nomadic life as a minister, led Mr. Jones back to the home of his ancestors in Ohio during the second year of his existence. As his parents early set him "at books," there was small chance from the first for him to escape professional life. After passing through elementary grades and high school, at the age of sixteen he began teaching a rural school near Columbus, Ohio. He says the salary of \$18 per month was pretty high in proportion to the service rendered. Intermittently teaching and attending normal school and college, he graduated from both. Later he attended Columbia University, where he received his Master's degree. He served three years in rural schools and two years as a village school principal, then came to Illinois as principal of the high school at Gibson City. At the close of the first year he was appointed superintendent of schools of Gibson City, where he continued for four years. After leaving Gibson City, he held successively the positions of superintendent of schools, at Lexington, Ill., for two years; at Harvard, Ill., for five years; at Kewanee, Ill., for six years; and is now beginning the third year as superintendent of the Rockford schools.

TRIBUTE TO A MAN OF WORTH.

Superintendent Walker, head of the Rockford schools for twenty-nine years, literally died in harness, after a brief illness, April 17, 1913. Peleg Remington Walker was born in Windham County, Conn., July 1, 1835. He came to Illinois with his parents in 1856 and settled in Ogle County. Mr. Walker was graduated from the State Normal school at Normal in 1861. In 1862 he enlisted for service in the Civil war in Company K, Ninety-second Illinois Infantry, and served until he was mustered out, June 21, 1865. After the war Mr. Walker resumed his former profession and spent eight years at Creston and eleven years at Rochelle. In this connection attention may be called to Senator Ingalls' famous

poem emphasizing the thought that opportunity, "master of human destinies," knocks once at every man's door. Superintendent Walker heard the call and promptly answered. He came to Rockford at the psychological moment when the educational interests were in a transitory period, and did the constructive work of his life. He was always the friend of the teachers, and they appreciated the fact. At the time of his death Superintendent Walker was president of the state board of education. He was a member of Nevius Post, Grand Army of the Republic, and of the Loyal Legion. Funeral services were held in the Second Congregational church, of which he was a deacon. While his body lay in state thousands of school children marched in continuous procession by the bier. It was one of the largest funeral demonstrations in the history of the city. Addresses were made by his pastor, Rev. John Gordon; David Felmley, president of the Normal school at Normal; John W. Cook, president of the Normal school at De Kalb; and Principal Briggs, of the Central High school. Miss Frances Walker, daughter of Superintendent Walker, was made acting superintendent to fill out her father's unexpired year.

PAGEANT AND PARADES.

June 6, 1913, was made memorable by the first School Children's Parade and Festival, when 8,000 children marched in line and moved under the protection of police, teachers and citizens, to the fair grounds' park. Italians, Poles, Greeks and Lithuanians marched proudly with their American cousins, telling the story of America's great crucible, the public schools. It was a real processional, "a mighty army," and made a profound impression never to be forgotten. It was a scene of great inspiration, at the same time suggesting a grave responsibility; and all showing how nobly Rockford is responding to the needs of its children. Upon arriving at the park the day was passed in general rejoicing. A feature was the beautiful rose drill in which pupils of several grade schools were participants. "We must have this annually." This was the verdict which followed the pageant of young crusaders, and May 22, 1914, and May 24, 1915, were devoted to parades and festivals similar to the first. The fourth festival and parade was held May 19 1916. In 1914 the Young



Alexander Liffen



Mary A. Liffen

People's Exposition Association was organized by representative citizens. Expositions were held in May, 1914, 1915, 1916, in which the handicraft of the school children of the city were displayed.

A PAGEANT DRAMATIZED FROM AUTHOR'S HISTORY.

On June 16 and 17, 1915, another notable innovation was made in the elaborate production of a historical pageant at Sinnissippi Park. The earlier scenes were dramatized from Charles A. Church's "History of Rockford," and many local celebrities of the period and of a later date told the story of the city in striking dramatic form. The participants were coached by Miss Czarina Giddings, an instructor at the high school. She was assisted in preparing the scenario by Roy L. Kettle, Robert Collins and A. V. Essington, also of the high school faculty. Joel Seedoff, as the Spirit of Rock River, gave a splendid recital of the episodes.

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS.

Rockford High school has generally played an important part in Illinois high school athletic circles. A number of undisputed championship teams have been turned out by Rockford High and there are others which had as good claims to first honors as any other school in the state. Rockford first leaped into real prominence in state athletic circles in the late nineties by winning the University of Illinois interscholastic meet, the first and only time the local high school has accomplished this feat. The football team of 1899 was the first gridiron squad of Rockford High to attain state wide prominence, tying with Bloomington for the down state title. Since that year Rockford has claimed the football honor on more than one occasion, and in 1910 was plainly entitled to the distinction of "state champions," the eleven of that year not meeting defeat in a single game. The 1914 record of R. H. S. on the gridiron was the poorest in many years, a majority of Rockford's bigger rivals triumphing over the local school.

In basketball Rockford has experienced more than its share of success. The teams of 1907 and 1908 were of state championship caliber and the team of 1911 won state honors in a tournament held at Peoria. High school sports have been given great consideration by the

Rockford public, and in point of attendance there is no city in the state which can surpass Rockford. Crowds of over 2,000 at football games are common, and in the basketball tournament held here in February, 1914, a new state record for attendance and receipts was attained.

Last year the high school athletes moved into their big, new gymnasium, and with the added equipment that has been provided for them Rockford high school teams promise to be more of a factor in Illinois high school athletic circles in years to come than they have been in the past.

Frank J. Winters is the present director of the athletic system of the Rockford public schools. He is a graduate of Springfield, Mass., Y. M. C. A. Training School.

PASSING OF A VETERAN EDUCATOR.

Rockford was called upon to mourn, April 26, 1915, the passing of Prof. O. F. Barbour, principal of Kent school from 1866. He was born in Perry, Lake County, Ohio, September 30, 1834, and was educated at Hiram College at the time James A. Garfield was a student. Prof. Barbour devoted nearly his entire active life to teaching; his principalship of a Rockford school, covering a period of forty-nine years, is probably without a parallel in the history of Illinois. He originated the "salute of the flag," which is now quite generally observed by the schools of the state. Funeral services were held from Court Street Methodist church, of which he was a member, and were conducted by his pastor, Rev. Frank N. Lynch. Prof. Barbour leaves two memorials. The first is the esteem of the thousands of pupils who have been under his instruction. A short time before his death he had the satisfaction of inspecting the plans of the new school building on Montague street which is to bear his name. Fred A. Carpenter is the architect. In September, 1915, the board of education accepted the bid of Gust Holm of \$89,885 for the erection of the O. F. Barbour school. An association of his pupils has also been formed to provide a memorial fund to be used in assisting worthy and needy students.

STATISTICS.

An idea of the magnitude of the public school system of Rockford may be gained by recital of

a few figures. The records of December, 1914, showed 340½ employes on the pay roll. The half means training school taught one-half day. There were twenty-one principals, 200 teachers for grade schools and two for summer school. On October 1, 1915, there were fifty-six instructors in the high school besides the principal. The payroll as per schedule in effect in December, 1914, amounts to \$251,376.94 per annum. The number of graduates from the high school by years is as follows: 1885, 20; 1886, 28; 1887, 36; 1888, 13; 1889, 28; 1890, 32; 1891, 37; 1892, 28; 1893, 49; 1894, 52; 1895, 48; 1896, 66; 1897, 89; 1898, 56; 1899, 57; 1900, 67; 1901, 48; 1902, 56; 1903, 64; 1904, 68; 1905, 78; 1906, 102; 1907, 91; 1908, 116; 1909, 120; 1910, 118; 1911, 130; 1912, 179; 1913, 178; 1914, 205; 1915, 210.

Mrs. Gertrude Frary submitted her report of the school census at a meeting of the board September 7, 1915. There are 17,665 children in Rockford under twenty-one years of age; 8,813 boys and 8,852 girls. There are 5,538 children under six years of age, and 12,127 children of school age between six and twenty-one, and there are 3,110 Catholic children under twenty-one years of age. St. Mary's parochial school has an enrollment of 375; St. James, 312; St. Thomas high school, 94; total, 781. There are 533 Catholic children enrolled in the public schools. St. Paul's German Lutheran parochial school has an enrollment of 46. The total enrollment for the city schools December 6, 1915, was 8,538. The enrollment at the high school for the same date was 1,455. There is seating capacity for about 1,700 pupils, and when plans now contemplated are completed 2,700 pupils can be accommodated.

The tax levy for 1915 is: School fund, \$319,273.86; building fund, \$102,170.35; total, \$421,444.21.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Rockford board of education is composed of the following members:

Fred H. Smith, president; Mrs. Laura P. Gregory, Mrs. E. D. Reynolds, Mrs. T. H. McCann, A. J. Anderson, Charles Andrews, Jr., Frank M. Smith, W. M. Shimmin, C. J. Lundgren, H. B. Andrews, J. A. Bowman.

A. G. Everett is secretary of the board; C. E. Beery is superintendent of construction, and R. H. Brown is attorney.

COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

There are 110 school districts and eight parts of districts in Winnebago County outside of the city of Rockford. There are twelve high schools in the same area. Those at Durand, Rockton, Harlem consolidated and Pecatonica have a four years' course. Those at Cherry Valley, Seward, Kishwaukee and New Milford have a course of three years. Shirland, Roscoe, South Beloit and Winnebago prescribe only two years. The schools at New Milford and Kishwaukee will work up to a four years' course.

In early days the county officer was called school commissioner. The succession from 1837 to 1915 is as follows: Richard Montague, 1837 to 1839; Herman B. Potter, 1839 to 1841; Volney A. Marsh, 1841 to 1845; Goodyear A. Sanford, 1845 to 1847; W. A. Dickerman, 1847 to 1849; C. A. Huntington, 1849 to 1857; Hiram H. Waldo, 1857 to 1859; Silas Sweet, 1859 to 1861; James B. Kerr, 1861 to 1863; Hiram H. Waldo, 1863 to 1865; Archibald Andrew, 1865 to 1873; 1873, E. G. Stiles to fill unexpired term; Mary L. Carpenter, 1873 to 1882; Charles J. Kinnie, 1882 to 1898; Olly J. Kern, 1898 to 1913; Mrs. Abbie Jewett Craig, the present superintendent.

A PROGRESSIVE EDUCATOR.

Winnebago County is entitled to a pre-eminent place in the evolution from the old-fashioned school to the community center of to-day. The chief factor in this transition was Olly J. Kern, county superintendent of schools from 1898 to 1913. Mr. Kern was born on a farm near Mattoon, Ill., January 1, 1861; received his rudimentary education in the district school, and attended De Pauw University. He came to Cherry Valley in 1888 and was for three years principal of the school, then having four rooms. In 1891 Mr. Kern became a teacher in the Rockford High school. He occupied that position seven years, until he was elected county superintendent. By personal experience Mr. Kern keenly realized the difference between the primitive schoolroom and the splendid opportunities now offered in the cities. He believed school life should be made attractive to the country child and formulated an educational creed, which he announced in his volume, "Among Country Schools," published in 1906. It is as follows: "The country child is entitled to every whit as good an educa-

tional opportunity as that enjoyed by the most favored city child attending the American public school; to secure this right for the country child the country people must expend more money on the country school and expend it in a better way. I believe in consolidation, and my educational decalogue for school officers and teachers may be reduced to one simple commandment, namely: 'Thou shalt enrich and enlarge the life of the country child.' To realize this ideal Mr. Kern gave "the last full measure of devotion." He urged observance of Arbor day and encouraged better standards of interior decoration. He instituted the traveling library, township graduation exercises, boys' and girls' clubs and other innovations. In 1902 he began the publication of the "Annual Report of Winnebago County Schools," which has carried the name of Winnebago County not only throughout the United States, but into Canada and foreign countries. As a lecturer along these progressive lines he visited nearly every state in the Union. Mr. Kern's greatest achievement was the consolidated school. The Harlem Consolidated is the highest type of the new country school, and is a magnificent monument to Mr. Kern. In July, 1913, Mr. Kern accepted a position as assistant professor of agriculture at the University of California, and in September he resigned the office of county superintendent. He began his new duties at Berkeley October 1, 1913.

PRESENT COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT.

Superintendent Kern has a worthy successor in Mrs. Abbie Jewett-Craig. She was appointed to fill the unexpired term of fourteen months by the board of supervisors at the September session of 1913; and assumed her duties October 1. Mrs. Craig is a daughter of John R. Jewett, a pioneer of the county. Her mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Gilmore, was an early day teacher, and taught in the Youngs district No. 40, in Harrison township. Before coming to Rockford Mrs. Craig spent two years in South Beloit, during one of which she was assistant principal. She then devoted two years to the Rockford schools as regular substitute, special teacher and substitute principal. Mrs. Craig displayed such signal ability in her brief incumbency that the people recognized her claim to election for a full period of four years. She was unanimously supported at the Republican

primaries in 1914, and elected in November. She has not only carried out the policies of her predecessor, but she has developed her own progressive methods. She has published two annuals, which becomes a greater task from year to year. These annuals have attracted widespread attention, and a representative of the National Education Bureau who was here during the county institute in September, said they were recognized as models of superintendents' reports throughout the entire country.

CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS.

Winnebago County has the oldest consolidated school in Illinois. In view of this fact the details of its origin are worthy of permanent record. In April, 1903, districts 90, 91, and 93 of Seward township were, on petition, consolidated by the township trustees. A few days later, by a vote of 38 to 15, the people voted to bond the new district for \$7,000 for ten years time, at four per cent, to erect a modern schoolhouse. The taxpayers also authorized the directors, by a vote of 47 to 11, to purchase a central site of three and six-tenths acres. The price paid was \$1,000. The building was dedicated January 30, 1904, and the event marked the close of a struggle of five years to give the children of the township better educational advantages. A notable program was presented, which included addresses by the late Alfred Bayliss, state superintendent of public instruction; Dr. John W. Cook, president of the state normal school at De Kalb; O. J. Kern, county superintendent of schools; and presentation of a flag by Hon. Laurence McDonald. The school was opened February 1, 1914, with an attendance of 103.

The second consolidated school is in Harlem Township. It was organized on the first Monday in April, 1910, upon petition of the legal voters of the districts. The district lies in four school townships. It comprises eighteen sections of land, thus equal in area to one-half of a township six miles square. The consolidated district is composed of four districts: No. 49, the Lovejoy school; No. 52, the Bruuer school; No. 56, the Free Soil school, and No. 61, the Union school. The petitions in the several districts asking for consolidation were signed by a large majority of the voters, and the petition was granted unanimously by the trustees of the four school townships. Bonds to the amount of \$18,-

000 were voted by a majority of 64 to 16, exactly four to one. An error in the assessment valuation of one district made a second vote of bonds necessary to come within the legal limit. The actual bond issue was \$17,700, which is the legal five per cent on the 1909 assessed valuation of \$354,425. The building was finished in 1911, at a cost of \$17,700, and was dedicated April 26. The principal address was delivered by Dr. David Felmley, president of the Central Illinois State Normal school. The first board of directors was composed of A. J. Lovejoy, Junius Snow and A. H. Conklin. One of the first acts of the board was a unanimous vote to employ only state normal or university graduates or their equivalent. The building is equipped for instruction in manual training, domestic science and agriculture. School children have special five-cent fare on trolley from any point in the district.

Two consolidated schools were effected in 1914. The New Milford district was formed by the union of three districts, Nos. 107, 109 and 110. The voters of these districts signified their desire for a consolidated school at the spring election held the first Monday in April. Bonds were issued amounting to \$7,500 to run fifteen years, payable in annual installments of \$500 each, commencing August 1, 1916. A brick veneer building of two stories was erected on the site of school building No. 109. Three teachers were employed the first year. At the opening of the school fifty pupils were enrolled in the grades, and sixteen in the high school.

The Kishwaukee district comprises what was district No. 202. New Milford Township, union with Ogle County; No. 203, union with Ogle County, and No. 158, lying wholly in Ogle County. A building tax of \$2.600 was levied in 1914, and later the district was bonded for \$5,000, payable in five annual installments, commencing July 1, 1916. The building is two-story brick veneer, has a gymnasium and rooms for manual training and domestic science. The building was dedicated November 19, 1915.

TRAVELING LIBRARIES.

As previously mentioned, Superintendent Kern instituted traveling libraries for the country schools of Winnebago County in 1901. The object was to supply valuable helps for school work and good literature in a way that would

be possible to reach every district school, every child and indirectly every home in the county outside the city of Rockford. This was the first attempt of its kind in Illinois. These traveling libraries are the property of the county, and are in charge of the superintendent of schools. The money with which to purchase the books was acquired in two ways: First by appropriations by the county board of supervisors; second, by the net proceeds of annual township school exercises.

The districts over the county were grouped into circuits of six districts each, with two or three exceptions. The fractional township of Laona has exactly twelve school districts. The teachers of this circuit are over twenty miles from Rockford. The traveling library is the only way to reach them, for the distance is too great for teachers to go to the county superintendent's office and take books to their schools. With the traveling libraries all schools are on an equal footing, as far as opportunity to use books is concerned. Three boxes of books were placed in each circuit with the exception of the graded school circuit, which had five boxes.

In February, 1914, the office occupied by the county superintendent of schools was given to the county recorder, and the superintendent was moved into two rooms formerly occupied by the county surveyor. In the present office there is no room for the traveling library boxes, neither is there any available space in the courthouse. The result was the temporary withdrawal of the traveling libraries from circulation. They were placed in storage, but were again put into general circulation in the autumn of 1915. There are 112 boxes, which contain in round numbers about 8,000 volumes. The traveling libraries are supplemented by district libraries, which are the exclusive property of the respective districts. There were at the last report 8,717 volumes in the district libraries of the county.

Township graduation exercises was an innovation made in 1901. These annual exercises are helpful in creating a better educational ideal with reference to the country school. It gives an opportunity for all the children and parents of a township to get together in the interest of better schools. No attempt is made to create a great display, the aim having always been to have the children render a program of a simple educational character, and thus keep alive a growing interest. Ten cents admission is



THOMAS GILMORE AND WIFE

charged, and the net proceeds go into the traveling library fund. Eighth grade certificates for admission to the high school, pupils' reading circle diplomas and teachers' professional attainment certificates are given at these union township exercises. A subject is selected each year by the county superintendent, which is the central theme of the program. The aim is to make the program a unit all over the county, and thus make the exercises truly educational and at the same time entertaining.

SCHOOL SOCIAL ACTIVITIES.

Country school life in Winnebago County has assumed some of the complexity of the city. The factors contributing to this result are play festivals in the spring, and community fairs in autumn, spelling and declamatory contests, historical pageant in Durand and South Beloit in 1914, home and school associations, corn-growing contests, parent-teachers' associations, and the Winnebago County School League. The Harlem consolidated school is a typical community center.

CHAPTER XV.

ROCKFORD FEMALE SEMINARY AND ROCKFORD COLLEGE.

EDUCATIONAL NEEDS—ROCKFORD SITE CHOSEN FOR SEMINARY IN 1845—SEMINARY FOUNDED IN 1851—SUITABLE GROUNDS PURCHASED—BUILDINGS ERECTED—BIOGRAPHY OF ANNA P. SILL—OF REV. ARATUS KENT—SUBSEQUENT SEMINARY PRINCIPALS—SEMINARY BECOMES COLLEGE IN 1892—LIST OF PRESIDENTS OF ROCKFORD COLLEGE—PRESENT FACULTY—BOARD OF TRUSTEES—GIFTS TO ROCKFORD COLLEGE—PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT ABANDONED IN 1911—SUCCESSFUL ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN—SECOND OLDEST WOMAN'S COLLEGE IN THE UNITED STATES.

EDUCATIONAL NEEDS.

As early as 1843 there was some discussion of the need of a college for the upper Rock

River valley. A general convention of the churches of the northwest was held at Cleveland, Ohio, in June, 1844, at which education received much attention. It was decided that a college and a female seminary should be founded in southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois, respectively. A resolution was adopted that the "exigencies of Wisconsin and northern Illinois require that those sections should unite in establishing a college and a female seminary of the highest order—one in Wisconsin, near to Illinois, and the other in Illinois, near to Wisconsin." The delegates, upon their return, called a convention at Beloit in August, 1844. Three subsequent conventions were held at Beloit, because it was believed from the first that the college should be located at that place. The resolution of the first convention, affirming the need of both college and seminary, was re-affirmed in these subsequent conventions, representing especially the Presbyterian and Congregational ministry and churches in all the region. The union of these two churches in this movement may be attributed to the fact that each was weak as it stood alone, and only in union was there strength. At the fourth convention, held at Beloit in October, 1845, that city was selected as the seat of the college, and a board of trustees was elected, to whom was committed the development of both institutions. Upon the original board were Rev. Aratus Kent and Hon. Wait Talcott. The charter for Beloit College was approved by the governor of the territory of Wisconsin, February 2, 1846. Middle college, the first building, was begun in the autumn of that year.

ROCKFORD SITE CHOSEN.

Then began the discussion of a site for the seminary. Rockton and Rockford were rivals, and Rockford was given the preference. A call was issued for a meeting at the Methodist church, on Monday evening, November 3, 1845, to consider the location of the seminary. At this meeting it was resolved to attempt to raise the sum prescribed by the Beloit trustees as necessary, about \$3,500, and a committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions. Citizens pledged the required amount and the Forum of December 3 mentions, in a sketch of the city, that the trustees of Beloit College located the seminary at Rockford. A charter was granted

February 25, 1847, to the following gentlemen as incorporators: Aratus Kent, D. Clary, S. Peet, F. Bascom, C. Waterbury, S. D. Stevens, A. L. Chapin, R. M. Pearson, G. W. Wilcox, A. Raymond, C. M. Goodsell, E. H. Potter, L. G. Fisher, Wait Talcott, Charles S. Hempstead and Samuel Hinman. These same gentlemen were the incorporators of Beloit College. Disasters affecting the business interests of the village prevented the fulfillment of the pledges which had been made and delayed the enterprise for a time, but it was never abandoned.

ROCKFORD SEMINARY FOUNDED IN 1851.

Meanwhile, June 11, 1849, Miss Anna P. Sill began a preparatory school, under the name of the Rockford Female Seminary. The recitations were held in the old courthouse building on North First street. Miss Sill came to Rockford from the East, with the expectation that her school would develop into the seminary which had been planned by the trustees of Beloit. While this preparatory school was not the seminary proper, it was its forerunner, and entirely under local management. The opening of this school apparently gave an impetus to the consummation of the former plans for a seminary. The trustees were: Rev. L. H. Loss, Jason Marsh, Anson S. Miller, C. A. Huntington, S. M. Church, Rev. J. C. Parks, Bela Shaw, T. D. Robertson, E. H. Potter, Dr. George Haskell, Asa Crosby. The academic year was divided into four terms of eleven weeks each. During the first two years of Miss Sill's residence in Rockford she continued independently her preparatory school. But in 1851 the school was formally recognized by the board of trustees of Beloit College as the preparatory department of Rockford Female Seminary, under the charter which they had already obtained. Full preparatory and collegiate courses of study were defined, and, upon examination, fifteen were admitted into the first collegiate class in September of that year. The year 1851 is thus regarded as the date of the founding of the seminary, according to the original design. The recitations were conducted in the old courthouse building, already noted. The seminary had been granted full collegiate powers by its charter, but it was called a seminary, as was customary for such institutions at that time. Seven of this first class of 1851 graduated in 1854. The course then

covered three years, and was later changed to four years.

In 1850 the citizens again made pledges aggregating more than \$5,000 for buildings, and the ladies pledged \$1,000 for the beautiful grounds. This original subscription list is still in existence, though eaten away in places. It was found among the papers of the late Charles H. Spafford. The word *original* is here used because the subscriptions of 1845-46 were apparently never redeemed. The list is probably the only one in existence. Thus by September 18, 1850, the seminary proper was assured as a permanent institution of Rockford, for the higher education of young women.

SEMINARY GROUNDS PURCHASED.

The present seminary grounds were purchased from Buell G. Wheeler. The land originally extended to the river, but a portion was taken by the Chicago & Iowa Railroad. The deed to this property was found among Mr. Spafford's papers, and apparently had never left his possession. The reason therefor may be explained. Mr. Spafford was county recorder at the time; he was also a trustee of the seminary, and the treasurer of the board. The document would thus naturally remain in his possession. This deed and the original subscription list, previously noted, were presented to the college in 1899 by Mr. Spafford's family, and are now among its permanent records.

The city of Rockford owes a debt of gratitude to three of its early citizens for the very existence of Rockford Female Seminary, now Rockford College. At a critical moment in the formative period, Charles H. Spafford, Eleazer H. Potter and Dr. Lucius Clark mortgaged their homes and raised several thousand dollars to insure the success of the seminary. These gentlemen had faith in the future of Rockford, and appreciated the value of higher education.

On July 15, 1852, the corner-stone of the first building was laid by Rev. Aratus Kent, president of the board of trustees. After the acceptance by the board of trustees of the financial pledges of the citizens of Rockford in 1850, it was deemed best that each institution should manage its own affairs. A provisional local board appears to have been created at this time, and in 1852 the seminary passed into the control of a separate board of trustees. The first

formal appointment to the permanent faculty of the seminary was made in July, 1852, when Miss Sill was elected principal. In July, 1854, the collegiate course was divided into four departments: mental and moral philosophy; mathematics and natural science; history and English literature; ancient languages. The department of mental and moral philosophy was assigned to the principal. Miss Mary White was chosen teacher in mathematics and natural science. In 1854 work was begun on Linden Hall, the western wing. It received its name from the residence of one of its New England friends. From this place and from New York the larger part of the fund was obtained for its construction. In the fifties Miss Sill raised a large sum of money among her eastern friends, especially in Boston, for the seminary, apparently to raise a deficit. Up to September 8, 1854, Miss Sill had secured in subscriptions \$3,659.67. This fact appears from a financial statement made by Charles H. Spafford. Linden Hall was first separate from Middle Hall, and then connected by a frame passage-way. In 1866 a second addition, Chapel Hall, with its connecting corridors, was begun, and completed two years later. In 1871 Linden Hall and Middle Hall were connected by a corridor. Of the first collegiate class admitted in 1851, seven were graduated in 1854, eight in 1855, sixteen in 1856, ten in 1857, eleven in 1858, ten in 1859, eleven in 1860, and nine in 1861; a total of eighty-two in eight years. There were then three departments: collegiate, normal and academic. During that time there were eighty-five others who entered the seminary, but did not complete the course. Forty-one were in the junior class in 1861. The number who shared in the instruction of the collegiate course during the first ten years was 206, and the whole number of pupils for a longer or shorter time connected with the institution, including the preparatory courses, from the beginning in 1849, to July, 1861, was 1,530. During this time there was contributed to the seminary from all sources the sum of \$39,228. Many godly men and women have labored for the success of this Christian college; and those of a later day have reaped the harvest. This chapter would be incomplete without a more specific reference to Miss Anna P. Sill and Rev. Aratus Kent.

BIOGRAPHY OF MISS SILL.

Anna Peck Sill was born in Otsego County, N. Y., August 9, 1816. She was the youngest of ten children, and inherited the intellectual and moral qualities of a long line of Puritan ancestry. Her father, Abel Sill, a farmer, died in 1824, when Anna was seven years of age. Her mother was the eldest daughter of Judge Jedediah Peck, who, it is said, was the first in New York to urge legislative action for the establishment of common schools, and the abolition of imprisonment for debt. Miss Sill was early inclined toward the foreign missionary field, but when an opportunity came for her to go to India, she had become convinced that her mission was, in part, to prepare others for the field. Miss Sill opened a seminary for young ladies at Warsaw, October 2, 1843, and remained there until March, 1846. In the following August she was invited to take charge of the ladies' department of the Cary Collegiate Institute, in Oakfield, Genesee County, and taught there until the spring of 1849. At this time the location of a seminary at Rockford was again under consideration. Friends of the enterprise had heard of her success as a teacher. Among these was Rev. L. H. Loss, then pastor of the First Congregational church. He invited her to come to Rockford and open a school for young ladies as preparatory to the prospective seminary. Miss Sill accepted the invitation, and arrived in Rockford May 24, 1849. Miss Sill and the seminary are thenceforth so vitally related that the life-story of one is the history of the other. In the summer of 1884, after thirty-five years of successful leadership, Miss Sill resigned, and retired to the more quiet but not less honored position of principal *emerita*. She accepted the situation as for the best interest of the seminary, with Christian fortitude, and lived five years after her retirement from active life. She died in her room in the seminary, June 18, 1889. She had lived a life of entire consecration. Self was laid on the altar of sacrifice, that it might be wholly consumed in the holy flame. When the path of duty became clear, she threw the enthusiasm of her strong and generous nature into the founding of a school for the Christian education of young women; and it may be said that upon the thousands who came under her benign influence, "light from her celestial garments streams."

BIOGRAPHY OF REV. ARATUS KENT.

Rev. Aratus Kent was born January 15, 1794, a son of John Kent, a merchant of Suffield, Conn., and a brother of Germaicus Keut, the first settler of Rockford. They belonged to the family from which came the famous Chancellor Kent, of New York. Mr. Keut graduated from Yale in 1816, spent four years in theological studies in New York, and was licensed to preach by the presbytery of New York, April 20, 1820. From November 21, 1822, until April 11, 1823, he was a student at Princeton Theological Seminary, and was ordained January 26, 1825, at Lockport, N. Y. Mr. Kent subsequently applied to the American Home Missionary Board "for a place so hard that no one else would take it." He was sent to Galena, Illinois, then a mining city, where he immediately began his labors. His first years in the west were spent in home missionary work. October 23, 1831, he organized the First Presbyterian church at Galeua. His three children died in infancy; one in 1837, another in 1838, and a third in 1840. Mrs. E. P. Thomas, of Rockford, is an adopted daughter. Mr. Kent died November 8, 1869, at the age of seventy-five years.

Miss Sill was succeeded by Miss Martha Hillard, now Mrs. Martha Hillard MacLeish, who was principal of Rockford Seminary from 1884 to 1888. Her genial personality did much to increase the social power of the school, both at home and abroad, and the regret felt when her marriage caused her resignation was universal. Miss Anna Gelston was the next in the succession, 1888-1890; but her very fragile health compelled her to relinquish the task in two years. Miss Sarah F. Anderson, now Mrs. Sarah Anderson Ainsworth, became acting principal in 1890, and principal in 1891, a position she continued to occupy until 1896. Miss Anderson graduated from the normal department of the seminary in 1869, and for many years acted as financial secretary before she became principal, and her wise financial management forms one of the striking features of her administration. The whole body of alumnae knew her well, and were deeply attached to her.

SEMINARY BECOMES COLLEGE.

During the decade ending with 1892 several changes were made in academic policy and two

additional buildings erected. In 1882 a collegiate course of study was added to the seminary curriculum, and since then all students who have done the requisite amount of work, have received the degree of B. A. or B. S.

In June, 1891, the board of trustees decided to discontinue the seminary course, and in June, 1892, the name of the institution was legally changed from Rockford seminary to Rockford college in order that the title might represent the work done. The last seminary graduates belong to the class of 1895. Beginning with the class of 1896, all graduates of the institution have been college graduates.

PRESIDENTS OF ROCKFORD COLLEGE.

When Miss Anderson resigned in 1896, Miss Phebe T. Sutliff was made president of Rockford College, and continued in that office until 1901. Miss Sutliff's brilliant scholarship and her remarkable power as a lecturer will never be forgotten in Rockford. She bent all her energies toward raising the standard of scholarship, and, as a result of her efforts, the whole tone of the institution changed for the better in this respect.

On Miss Sutliff's resignation in 1901, Miss Emily K. Reynolds was elected president, but her health broke down before she had scarcely begun her work, and she was obliged to leave Rockford after only two or three months of residence. Even during this short space of time, however, she made her influence felt in establishing a system of self-government at the college, and in helping to beautify the college home.

On Miss Reynolds' resignation in 1902 Miss Julia H. Gulliver, was elected president. She was inaugurated October 18, 1902. John H. Sherratt, president of the board of trustees, presided. The principal address was delivered by President Hyde of Bowdoin College. Brief addresses were also made by President Gulliver and Jane Addams, of Hull House, Chicago, an alumna of the college. It was a great occasion, being the first time a president of Rockford College had been formally inducted into office.

In the evolution from a small preparatory school of sixty years ago to the fully equipped woman's college of today, the name of its president, Julia H. Gulliver, Ph. D., LL. D., stands preeminent. She was born in Norwich, Conn., July 30, 1856. Her father was John Putnam



Leland S. Gilmore.



Willis Gilmore



Alice A. Gilmore

Gulliver, D. D., LL. D., at one time president of Knox College, and later a professor at Andover Theological Seminary. Miss Gulliver was graduated from Smith College in 1879. She received her degree of Ph. D. from her alma mater, which in 1910 honored her with the degree of LL. D., with Julia Ward Howe. Miss Gulliver became head of the department of philosophy and Biblical literature at Rockford Seminary in 1890, and her connection with the institution since that time has been continuous, except a brief interval spent in study in Leipzig. Her work at Rockford College has been broad, constructive and abiding. Above all, a sense of the beauty of Christian young womanhood has been held before the students in the chapel service conducted daily by the president.

President Gulliver is supported by a faculty of thirty-six instructors. One of these, Anna C. Behrens, A. M., head of the department of German, came to Rockford the same year as did Miss Gulliver. Edith C. Bramhall, Ph. D., head of the department of history and economics, has been connected with the college since 1900. Martha W. Nye, head of the department of mathematics, had been identified with her alma mater as an instructor since 1891, and registrar of the college since 1906. She died January 22, 1915. Miss Nye was succeeded as registrar by Lorena M. Church, A. M., who has for ten years been an instructor in English.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

John Barnes is president of the board; Edward P. Lathrop, vice-president; George O. Forbes, secretary; Fred G. Shoudy, treasurer; Miss Emma Enoch is financial secretary.

All through its history Rockford College has been blessed in its trustees. They have been broad-minded men and women who have counted not life itself dear unto them in their devoted labors for the best interests of the institution. Progressive, clear-sighted, courageous, they have laid its foundations in heroic self-sacrifice; they have reared its walls in honor. The present board worthily represents a long line of illustrious predecessors. Whatever can be contributed in the way of money, time, professional knowledge, business sagacity, and vital interest, is freely given.

GIFTS TO ROCKFORD COLLEGE.

The first accession to the connected group of buildings was Sill Hall. It was erected in 1886, and cost \$15,000, which was given by Rockford citizens and alumnae. Adams Hall was erected in 1892 and cost \$35,000. Of this amount \$10,000 was contributed by Rockford citizens and \$25,000 was the gift of John Quincy Adams of Chicago, a trustee of the college. Mr. Adams also showed his devotion to the college by a bequest of \$50,000. Mr. Adams died in Chicago February 8, 1899.

When the college celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its founding, in 1899, at the commencement in June, William A. Talcott, then chairman of the board of trustees, announced several gifts in scholarships and additions to the endowment fund. Among the latter were a bequest of \$10,000 from Judge Benjamin R. Sheldon, and one of \$22,000 from Horatio Stone. Mr. Talcott was a generous supporter of the college. He and Mrs. Talcott founded three scholarships at the University of Chicago, with a provision that the beneficiaries be students of Rockford College in preference to other applicants.

Early in 1907 efforts were made to increase the endowment fund, and to provide another dormitory. Andrew Carnegie was informed of the need and solicited for a contribution. A winter festival was held January 17-18. At the last session Mrs. W. A. Talcott read the following telegram: "Mr. Carnegie has mailed you a letter today saying that he will be glad to provide the last half of the \$70,000 required for the building and equipment of a dormitory and the required connection with the main building when \$50,000 in cash or realizable securities have been collected and added to the endowment fund." Mrs. Talcott, on behalf of the trustees, announced that the gift would be accepted and that friends of the college would undertake to meet the conditions by raising \$85,000. Mr. Carnegie stimulated other gifts to the building and endowment fund.

As the number of students increased the necessity for greater accommodations became imperative. A dormitory was completed in 1911, and named John Barnes Hall. Mr. Barnes had been a trustee of the college twenty-six years, and since the death of Mr. Sherratt, he had been president of the board of trustees. He had

ministered to the college with a devotion that money could not buy, and the beautiful dormitory is his memorial. This fire-proof building was opened September 12, 1911, and cost \$94,000. It is in the shape of a right angle, and, with the Main building and Sill Hall, encloses three sides of a quadrangle, not unlike the Oxford quadrangles, with all their scholarly associations.

In 1911 the college abandoned its preparatory department. The preceding year the trustees dropped the first and second years from the preparatory course. Since that time all academic students have been of collegiate rank.

SUCCESSFUL ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN.

A spirited campaign was conducted in 1913 to increase the endowment. The North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, authorized to standardize colleges of the middle west, had placed the minimum endowment for first-class colleges at \$200,000. Unless this sum could be raised Rockford would drop to second class. The endowment at that time was \$105,000. The gift of Mr. Carnegie would increase it to \$140,000, leaving a balance of \$60,000. President Gulliver seized the psychological moment and invited the co-operation of the Chamber of Commerce and other citizens. R. A. Cassidy, of New York, assumed charge of the campaign and Mayor Bennett was chairman of the general committee. The preliminary meeting was held May 26, and the campaign was concluded June 12, when it was announced that Rockford College would have an endowment of \$200,000, with a surplus of \$451. The college also owns four cottages near the campus. One of these is Memorial Hall, a residence for students. It was given as a memorial to Ralph Emerson, Jr.

Rockford College is accorded first rank in scholarship with Smith, Wellesley and Vassar, as one of the sixteen leading women's colleges in the United States. It is the oldest college for women in the country with the exception of Mt. Holyoke, Mass. The college holds institutional membership in the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Rockford students are given advanced credit by the Chicago, Wisconsin, and Michigan universities and others of like rank. Its graduates are received as candidates for the master's degree in one year's time at Yale, Columbia, Cornell, Chicago, Wisconsin, Michigan and

Northwestern. It has sent out hundreds of graduates during its history, and has touched, for a longer or shorter period, the lives of thousands of girls, who have gone out as missionaries, as teachers, as wives and mothers all over this land and to foreign countries. In Rockford the unusual number of cultured women show its moulding power.

CHAPTER XVI.

LECTURE PLATFORM CELEBRITIES.

INTELLECTUAL AWAKENING—EARLIEST LECTURE ORGANIZATION AT ROCKFORD—YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION—MOST POPULAR LECTURERS OF THE DAY SECURED—E. P. WHIPPLE—HORACE MANN—GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS—HORACE GREELEY—HIS IMPRESSIONS OF ROCK RIVER VALLEY—PROF. JOSEPH EMERSON—BISHOP POTTER—CHANCELLOR LATHROP—JUDGE DOOLITTLE—OLE BULL—ADELINA PATTI—REV. E. H. CHAPIN—JOSIAH QUINCY—JOHN G. SAXE—JOHN PIERPONT—JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL—BAYARD TAYLOR—P. A. SHILLABER—PARKE GODWIN—JOHN B. GOUGH—PROFESSOR YOUNG.

INTELLECTUAL AWAKENING.

There has been one movement in the history of the American mind which gave to literature a group of writers entitled to the name of a school. This was the great humanitarian movement, or series of movements, in New England, which began with the elder Channing, ran through its later phase in transcendentalism, and spent its force in the anti-slavery agitation and the enthusiasms of the Civil war. This movement was contemporary with the preaching of many novel doctrines in religion, sociology, science, education, medicine and hygiene. New sects were formed. There were Millerites, Spiritualists, Mormons, Swedenborgians and Shakers. This intellectual and moral awakening found its expression in the lecture platform. The daily newspaper had not assumed its present blanket-sheet proportions, and the leaders

of these various phases of new thought carried their message to the people in person.

In the autumn of 1853 the Young Men's Association was organized, for the purpose of bringing to Rockford the most popular lecturers of the day, and it continued in this field until 1860. Among the members were: Rev. H. M. Goodwin, C. H. Spafford, H. H. Waldo, H. P. Holland, E. W. Blaisdell, J. E. L. Southgate, William Lathrop, R. A. Sanford, E. H. Baker, Rev. J. Murray, E. C. Daugherty, A. S. Miller. The first course was provided for the winter of 1853-54. It began with two lectures, November 29 and 30, by E. P. Whipple, in the First Baptist Church.

The third lecture was given December 10, at the Baptist church, by Horace Mann. His subject was "Young Men." The Democrat, in "reporting" the lecture, took this flattering unction to its soul: "As we looked around over the large assemblage of youth, beauty, intellect and fashion, and noted with what anxiety the sea of heads were turned toward the speaker, as if to catch the words ere they left his lips, we experienced a deep feeling of pride, and thought to ourselves, few places in any land, of equal age, population, etc., can boast of a more highly refined, intellectual community than are to be found in our own little embryo city."

The fourth lecture was given in the City Hall, by George William Curtis, December 12. His subject was "Young America," and for an hour and a half the speaker entranced his audience with his noble thought and pure diction.

Horace Greeley followed Mr. Curtis. His theme was "The Reforms of the Age." He spoke of the abolition and temperance movements, woman's rights, and the abolition of the death penalty. Mr. Greeley wrote his impressions of the Rock River Valley at some length for the New York Tribune, from which this characteristic paragraph is taken: "I have traversed the Roman Campana (which is only a great wet prairie surcharged with malaria and ruins), glanced at the great pastures of Belgium, and ridden across the prairies of central and northern Indiana by daylight, lamp-light, and moonlight; but still I was nowhere in a discussion of the value and attractiveness of prairies—for I had never been on Rock River. But now, gentlemen! I give you fair warning that I take a back seat no longer when

the felicities of western life and the genial fertility and Eden-like character of the prairies is under discussion—for I *have* been on Rock River! . . . I should like more springs, more running streams, and less lime in the water; but then Paradise is beyond Jordan, or some other stream, and is not wisely sought even on Rock River."

The next speaker was Prof. Joseph Emerson, of Beloit, who spoke on "Greek Civilization." W. H. Channing was announced for January 27, but no reference to the lecture is found. Ralph Waldo Emerson delivered the seventh lecture in the course February 3, 1854, in Warner's Hall. His subject was "History."

Lectures were also given during this season by Bishop Potter, Chancellor Lathrop, Judge Doolittle, and Bayard Taylor. On March 27, 1854, Ole Bull and Patti were in Rockford.

The course for 1854-55 included Rev. E. H. Chapin, Josiah Quincy, John G. Saxe, John Pierpont, James Russell Lowell, and Bayard Taylor. Dr. Chapin spoke on "Modern Chivalry;" Mr. Saxe gave a poem-lecture on "Yankee Land;" John Pierpont's theme was "The Golden Calf;" Lowell spoke on "English Ballads," and Bayard Taylor, on "India." The course of 1855-56 was opened by Henry Ward Beecher, who spoke on "Patriotism." He was followed by Wendell Phillips. T. Sarr King and Dr. Chapin were engaged for this course. During the next few years Rockford was favored with P. A. Shillaber, Parke Godwin, John B. Gough, and Professor Youmans.

CHAPTER XVII.

ROCKFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

FIRST CIRCULATING LIBRARY—FIRST PUBLIC LIBRARY IN 1858—IN 1872 LIBRARY ESTABLISHED UNDER LIBRARY LAW—FIRST PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD—"FATHER OF THE LIBRARY"—APPOINTMENT OF LIBRARY OFFICIALS—CHANGES IN LOCATION—LIBRARIES PLACED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS—GIFT OF CIVIL WAR BOOKS—TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM L. ROWLAND—PRESENT LIBRARIAN—FIREPROOF

BUILDING ERECTED—GIFT FROM ANDREW CARNEGIE—NEW BUILDING OCCUPIED IN 1903—A MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY PRESENTED—BRANCH LIBRARY OPENED—DEPOSIT STATIONS—NUMBER OF VOLUMES IN LIBRARY—PRESENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

FIRST CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

The agitation for a public library began in 1852. Several years elapsed, however, before a library was established, and information concerning these early efforts is very meager.

The Sinnissippi Division No. 134 of the Sons of Temperance, of Rockford, surrendered its charter to the grand division April 15, 1852. Its former members resolved to reorganize under the name of the Rockford Library Association. All members of the division who had paid their quarterly dues to the close of the preceding quarter were to be equal sharers in the library. A request was made in the Forum for the return of all books belonging to the library. Thus, so far as known, the first circulating library was the small number of books owned by the Sons of Temperance. The Forum of October 27 published a call for a meeting of the trustees of the Library Association for October 30, and for the annual meeting of the stockholders on the first Saturday of November. No other reference to the library is found immediately thereafter.

At the annual meeting of the Young Men's Association, September 11, 1855, it was proposed to extend its sphere of usefulness by providing a library and reading room. A committee of three was appointed to confer with the old Library Association, with a view of obtaining its books. So far as can be learned, this effort to establish a library and reading room was not successful.

It was not until March, 1857, that the first successful effort to establish a library was made. In that month a subscription paper was circulated, with the following statement of its object:

"We, the undersigned, agree to take the number of shares set opposite our names, in an association to be incorporated under the general law of this state, for the purpose of the establishment of a public library in the city of Rockford. Said library to be under the man-

agement and control of a board of trustees, to be elected by the stockholders.

"Shares to be fifty dollars each. Ten dollars per share payable upon the formation of the association, and ten dollars per share per annum thereafter, in such amounts and at such times as shall be determined by the said board of trustees. Shares subject to forfeiture by the trustees for non-payment of installments."

The first four names upon the list pledged \$1,200, and by the autumn of 1858 \$6,000 had been pledged. The library was duly organized October 14, 1858. Rooms were secured on the third floor of Robertson, Coleman & Company's bank. James M. Wight, Seely Perry, Selden M. Church, Elias Cosper, and Thomas D. Robertson constituted the first board of trustees; Elias Cosper was chairman; Spencer Rising, treasurer; F. H. Bradley, librarian. The original board was composed of gentlemen of exceptional literary equipment. Others rendered efficient aid in the selection of books. Among them was William L. Rowland, who was subsequently appointed librarian of the public library. The books, although few in number, possessed very high merit. The number of volumes at this time was about one thousand; number of magazines and newspapers, thirty-eight. During the next few years the library steadily received accessions. According to the annual report of the stockholders, made October 11, 1860, there were 1,134 volumes. There had been drawn during the year ending October 4, 1,669 volumes. This was an increase of 396 over the preceding year. Several gentlemen acted as librarian for short terms, and received a nominal compensation. Among those who rendered this service were John F. Squier and Hosmer P. Holland. This library served its purpose several years, but during the Civil war popular interest began to decline. The library was finally closed, and about 1865 the books were sold at public auction in a building on North Main street, directly north of the Ashton block. Some of these books are now in the public library, and quite a number, in excellent condition, are in the private library of Robert H. Tinker. The first library was organized under a general law, and was entirely supported by private subscriptions and annual fees. It was not until 1872 that the legislature enacted



MEMORIAL HALL, ROCKFORD



PUBLIC LIBRARY, ROCKFORD



STEAMER "ILLINOIS," ROCK RIVER



GIRDER BRIDGE, ROCKFORD



NELSON BRIDGE, ROCKFORD

a law which provided for a tax for the support of public libraries.

ESTABLISHED UNDER LIBRARY LAW.

The Rockford public library is believed to be the first one established in the state, outside of Chicago, under the library law. In May, 1872, a petition was presented to the city council, signed by prominent citizens of Rockford, representing all classes of its inhabitants, praying for the organization of a free public library and reading room. The council promptly passed an ordinance, which was approved June 17, 1872. It provided, however, that "no indebtedness or liability shall be allowed, or contracted against the said city, or the 'library fund' of said city, for any of the contingent or running expenses of said library and reading room, until after the first day of March, A. D. 1873." On the very day the library ordinance was approved, Mayor Seymour G. Bronson appointed the following named gentlemen the first board of directors of the public library: Melancthon Starr, Elias Cospers, S. C. Withrow, D. S. Clark, Rev. F. P. Woodbury, Rev. H. C. Mabie, N. C. Thompson, J. G. Knapp and Charles L. Williams. The board was organized with the election of N. C. Thompson, president, and Major Cospers, secretary. Of this original board only two are living. Dr. Mabie resides in Boston, and Dr. Woodbury is in Washington, D. C.

Under the restrictions of the ordinance there were no public funds available for the founding and maintenance of the library. Its immediate support therefore came from individual subscriptions. The board of directors issued a general invitation for a public reception to be held July 30. Its purpose was to afford the directors an opportunity to make a report of what had already been done, and to consult with reference to future action. At that meeting it was resolved to raise by private subscription a fund of \$5,000, to supplement the limited sum to be raised by the tax levy, which would not be available for some time. Subscriptions exceeding \$2,000 were made. Among the most liberal contributors were: Thomas D. Robertson, \$500; Emerson & Talcott, \$500; Melancthon Starr, \$200; Elias Cospers, \$40; N. C. Thompson, \$200; Selden M. Church, \$50; S. C. Withrow, \$50; William Lathrop, \$100.

The outlook was not promising, but the citizens were determined to have a library, and according to their faith, so it was given unto them. Dr. Woodbury and Melancthon Starr had been appointed a committee to prepare an address to the citizens. It is no disparagement of the work of others to say that the most zealous supporter of the project was Major Elias Cospers. He solicited funds and books, and many of the valuable works of reference in the early library came from his private collection. Major Cospers earned the distinction of "Father of the library." He served on the board twenty years. Three rooms were leased on the second floor of the Wallach block, which stood on the site of the present Ashton block, and on July 30 Miss Mary E. Rankin was engaged temporarily as librarian. The reading rooms were open to the public August 1, 1872, with a goodly number of daily and weekly newspapers, magazines and reviews. On September 2, Thomas M. Martin was tendered the appointment of permanent librarian. A few days later Mr. Martin reported that he could not accept the position; and September 17, 1872, the board engaged William L. Rowland to fill the place. On the first day of February, 1873, the library was open to the public for the issue of books for home use. The first catalogue of 86 pages was printed a few months later. Miss Frank I. Edson entered the library as an assistant in March, 1873. In September following she was succeeded by Miss Elizabeth J. Williamson, who remained eighteen years, until the autumn of 1891. Miss Nellie Rose was then appointed assistant librarian, and served several years.

The first annual report of the board of directors, made June 1, 1873, showed that \$1,773.11 had been received on private subscriptions up to that time, with \$2,160.50 still unpaid; making a total of \$3,933.61. There were on that date 2,815 volumes in the library. Of this number 1,603 were donations. The librarian's report showed that for the first four months, ending May 31, 1,252 cards had been issued to borrowers. The total circulation for the same period was 8,777. The first tax levy for library purposes was approved September 16, 1872, and was fixed at one mill on the dollar, which was the statutory maximum. This tax yielded a library fund of only \$2,164, a sum quite inadequate to the needs of the institution.

The library remained in the Wallach block until June, 1876, when the books were removed to a part of the second floor of the block just completed by Church, Robertson & Emerson. This block is now occupied by the Register-Gazette company and Brown's Business College. For twenty-seven years the library remained in these quarters. Its growth and educational importance kept pace with the rapid advance of the city in population and commercial importance. In 1896 the library board leased the entire second story of the building, which nearly doubled the floor area.

In 1890 it was decided to open the reading room three hours Sunday afternoon, for the accommodation of those who were without homes, or who were unable to visit the library during the week. The first response was not very general, but time has vindicated the wisdom of such action. In 1892 Mayor Starr made an innovation by the appointment of three ladies on the board of directors. These were Mrs. Marie T. Perry, Mrs. Clara G. Sanford, and Miss Sarah Anderson, then president of Rockford College.

The card catalogue for public use was placed in the delivery room in September, 1897. In it were entered all books received since the publication of the printed supplement to the catalogue in 1894. This was superseded in 1902 by a complete directory catalogue of the entire contents of the library.

In the autumn of 1898 the library board voted to spend a portion of the annual appropriation in the purchase of books to be placed in certain schools of the city. The Rockford library was one of the first in Illinois to place libraries in the public schools. The inauguration of this plan of reaching the youth of the city came from an address by Mrs. Marie T. Perry, then a member of the board of directors, before the Rockford Federation of Women's clubs. Mrs. Perry's address so well incorporated the salient features of the proposed work that from her ideas a resolution was drafted and presented to the board by Henry S. Whipple. On January 5, 1899, libraries were placed in nineteen school rooms, and on January 19 four more schools were supplied. The total circulation of these books for the four and one-half months of the fiscal year ending May 31, was 9,808. The school libraries have been increased to fifty cases, containing 2,450 volumes, with a

circulation of more than 25,000 volumes during the last year. Another effort to reach the youth of the city was the publication in June, 1899, of a catalogue of juvenile literature. This carefully selected list largely increased the use of books by the children.

In August, 1900, by the death of Andrew M. Potter of Philadelphia, a native of Rockford, and a Civil war veteran of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, the library was enriched by the accession of 446 volumes of history pertaining to the Civil war. The Rockford library now has one of the most complete collections of works in Illinois on the Civil war, outside of Chicago. On September 27, 1900, Mr. Rowland passed away, after a brief illness. For twenty-eight years he had been the efficient librarian, and his death was mourned as a great loss to the public. He was admirably qualified for the responsible position of librarian of a growing library. He was born in Augusta, Ga. His father, originally a northern man, removed to Rockford in the early fifties. Mr. Rowland was graduated from Yale, in a class which included several who subsequently became distinguished. Among these was D. C. Gilman, at one time president of Johns Hopkins University. Mr. Rowland, without a home of his own, bestowed an unusual affection upon the books committed to his charge, and the development of the Rockford public library became the ambition of his life.

In January, 1901, the board of directors advanced Miss Jane P. Hubbell to the position of librarian. She had been first assistant for several years. Since she became the successor of Mr. Rowland Miss Hubbell has displayed administrative ability of a high order. She has kept fully informed upon the rapid development of library science, and is thoroughly acquainted with the details of the routine work. Miss Mary E. Lowry is reference librarian.

One of the notable events of the years 1901-02 was the reorganization of the library according to more modern methods. On September 16, 1901, Miss Mary E. Gale, an experienced cataloguer, began the work of reclassifying and cataloguing the books, according to the decimal classification. Miss Gale completed her work in November, 1902, after fourteen months of the most exacting labor.

For many years the friends of the public library recognized that a commodious, fire-

proof building was an urgent necessity. The city, however, could not build it, for it had been for many years up to the statutory limit of its bonded indebtedness. When it became known that Andrew Carnegie proposed to distribute a portion of his wealth in public library buildings, an effort was made to enlist his interest in Rockford. Correspondence began in 1899. In March, 1901, Mr. Carnegie, in a letter to O. F. Barbour, made a gift of \$60,000. A desirable site was selected after a prolonged controversy. The property was owned by the Rockford Gas Light and Coke company, and was valued at \$11,000, of which a gift of \$2,000 was made by the company. The balance was paid by citizens. The plans submitted by Bradley & Carpenter were approved, and the contract for the structure was made with W. H. Cook. In the spring of 1903, when funds were greatly reduced, Mayor Amasa Hutchins asked Mr. Carnegie for an addition to his gift, and he promptly received \$10,000. A portion of this sum was expended in the completion of the building, and the balance was used in the furnishings. The work of beautifying the grounds was in charge of Robert H. Tinker. The completed Carnegie library building was opened to the public November 21, 1903. The opening of the new library immediately resulted in an increase of 25 per cent in circulation.

In 1895 the library was made a depository for government publications. A large room has been set apart for them, and they are a source of information of great value. One of the most interesting present features of the library is the children's room in the basement. During a busy season of the year more than a hundred little ones have been seen there at one time.

In 1904 the Misses Anna and Mary Beattie and brothers Edward W. and George D. presented to the city of Rockford a rare museum of natural history, conservatively valued at \$9,000. The collection was the life-work of Dr. Velie, and he personally supervised its installation. The gift is a memorial of the parents of the donors of the gift, Mr. and Mrs. John Beattie, early residents and highly esteemed citizens of Rockford. The city authorities referred the acceptance of the gift to the library board, who gave it a place on the second floor of the Carnegie building.

In January, 1904, the city council appropriated \$2,000 for the purpose of establishing a branch library on Seventh street. The furniture was generously contributed by factories in the city. The branch was opened June 20, 1904, with 1,704 volumes on the shelves. There are now 6,663 volumes, of which 819 are Swedish and 103 Norwegian. The reading room is greatly used, and is often crowded so that there is not a vacant chair. It is open twelve hours daily and three hours Sunday afternoon. The circulation of books at the branch for the last year was 42,922, which is the largest in its history. During the eleven years of its existence it has circulated 360,660 volumes, without any interference with the circulation of the main library, which has increased 60 per cent in that time.

In March, 1913, the first deposit station was opened at Montague House, in South Rockford. Despite inadequate accommodations the work has been a success from the beginning. The possibility of its development into a permanent branch library is assured. In January, 1914, another station was opened in the North Rockford W. C. T. U. building, where the library administers a deposit collection in conjunction with the local library. This experiment has been fairly successful, but serves a much more scattered community than the South Rockford station.

There are now 62,940 volumes in the public library, with 11,362 borrowers. Five books may be taken on a single card. The library staff numbers twelve. The library is second in the state outside of Chicago in the number of volumes and in circulation. Peoria is first. The state library rate was increased by the last General Assembly from one and two-tenth mills to two mills. The library appropriation for 1915 is \$21,700. The board of directors is composed of H. S. Whipple, president; A. R. Haley, vice-president; R. M. Gibboney, secretary and treasurer; N. E. Catlin, Anthony Haines, C. J. Westerberg, N. P. Nelson, T. R. Sizer and M. R. Shumway. The late Prof. O. F. Barbour was appointed a member of the board in 1876 by Mayor Rhoades, and, with the exception of a brief interim in 1878, during the administration of Mayor Watson, he served to the time of his death in April, 1915, a period of thirty-eight years.

CHAPTER XVIII.

EVOLUTION OF THE NEWSPAPER.

THE PRESS.

EVOLUTION OF THE NEWSPAPER—ENLARGED SCOPE OF DAILY ISSUE—ILLUSTRATIONS A MARVEL—SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS COVER EVERY FIELD—NEWSPAPERS OF ROCKFORD WITH INTERESTING COMMENTS—ROCK RIVER EXPRESS—ROCKFORD STAR—ROCKFORD PILOT—BETTER COVENANT—WINNEBAGO FORUM—ROCKFORD FORUM—REPUBLICAN—ROCKFORD REGISTER—ROCKFORD FREE PRESS—ROCK RIVER DEMOCRAT—ROCKFORD REGISTER—DAILY REGISTER—ROCKFORD DAILY REGISTER—REGISTER GAZETTE—ROCKFORD WESLEYAN SEMINARY REPORTER—CUDGEL—SPIRIT ADVOCATE—ORIENT—DEMOCRATIC STANDARD—DAILY NEWS—CRESCENT AGE—ROCK RIVER MIRROR—PEOPLE'S PRESS—WORDS FOR JESUS (MONTHLY)—LEAVES FOREST HILL (MONTHLY)—ROCKFORD GAZETTE—WINNEBAGO CHIEF—GOLDEN CENSER—CHRISTIAN GLEANER—ROCKFORD DAILY JOURNAL—ANDRUS' ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY—METHODIST FREE PRESS—CURIOSITY HUNTER—NOWADAYS—ROCKFORD SUNDAY HERALD—PEOPLES' CHAMPION—OUR HOME AND SCIENCE GOSSIP—ROCKFORD SEMINARY MAGAZINE—ROCKFORD COLLEGIAN—STAMP NEWS—ROCKFORD INDUSTRIAL TIMES—HORNET—TIMES—ROCKFORD DAILY NEWS—WESTERN BANNER—MORNING HERALD—ROCKFORD FURNITURE JOURNAL—MONITOR—CHICAGO LEVER—ROCKFORD MORNING STAR—FARMERS' MONTHLY—REPUBLIC—SUNDAY MERCURY—SPECTATOR—WEEKLY RECORDER—OWL—ROCKFORD TRADE JOURNAL—AGRICULTURAL WEST—WINNEBAGO COUNTY SCHOOLS—ROCKFORD LABOR JOURNAL—CONSTITUTION—JOURNAL OF PRACTICAL NURSING—ROCKFORD AIR BRUSH—UNION PRINTER—PEOPLE'S JOURNAL—FOREST CITY—ADVOCATE—ROCKFORD CHIEF—ROCKFORD UNION RECORD—HAMMER—SWEDISH NEWSPAPERS—THE GERMANIA—CATHOLIC MONTHLY—COUNTRY PRESS—ROCKTON GAZETTE—PECATONICA INDEPENDENT—PECATONICA NEWS—ROCKTON HERALD—WINNEBAGO REFLECTOR—ROCKTON WEEKLY ECHO—CHERRY VALLEY COURIER—WINNEBAGO COUNTY ADVERTISER—DURAND ARGUS—FREE PRESS—WEEKLY ECHO—WEEKLY TIMES—RECORD—WEEKLY CLIPPER—GAZETTE.

One of the greatest institutions in this day of great things is the daily newspaper. Its evolution has been most rapid. Even Horace Greeley, the Nestor of American journalism, if he were permitted to come back to earth, would be ill at ease in his old profession. The fast presses, printing many thousands an hour, the linotype and other inventions that work almost with the precision of the human mind, have produced results far beyond the wildest dreams of half a century ago. Jules Verne's fantastic stories are scarcely more wonderful. Indeed, Verne was something of a prophet, for in other lines of progress some of his fancies have been realized in fact.

The scope of the daily newspaper has become greatly enlarged. By the constantly increased use of illustrations, and the introduction of "features," the newspaper has encroached upon the domain of the magazine. The religious journal has also felt the growing prestige of the daily. As in ancient Rome, the Pantheon was dedicated to the worship of all the gods, so the newspaper of today meets the needs of all the people. Interurban lines of railway and the rural route have brought the morning and the evening news to the door of the farmer. The special correspondents have traversed all parts of the globe, and in time of war have shown daring and bravery by the side of trained soldiery.

NEWSPAPERS OF ROCKFORD.

The story of the newspapers of Rockford, daily, weekly and monthly, is replete with interest, and is now placed in permanent historic form for the first time.

The first newspaper published in Winnebago County was the Rock River Express. Its publication began in Rockford, May 5, 1840, by B. J. Gray. In politics it was Whig of the most radical type. In a village of perhaps 300 inhabitants, there was very little of a local nature that could be published. The primary purpose of the paper's existence seems to have been to promote the election of William Henry Harrison to the presidency. Its ambition was satisfied; but after it had been published one year, the press and printing material were sold and removed from the village. A file of this



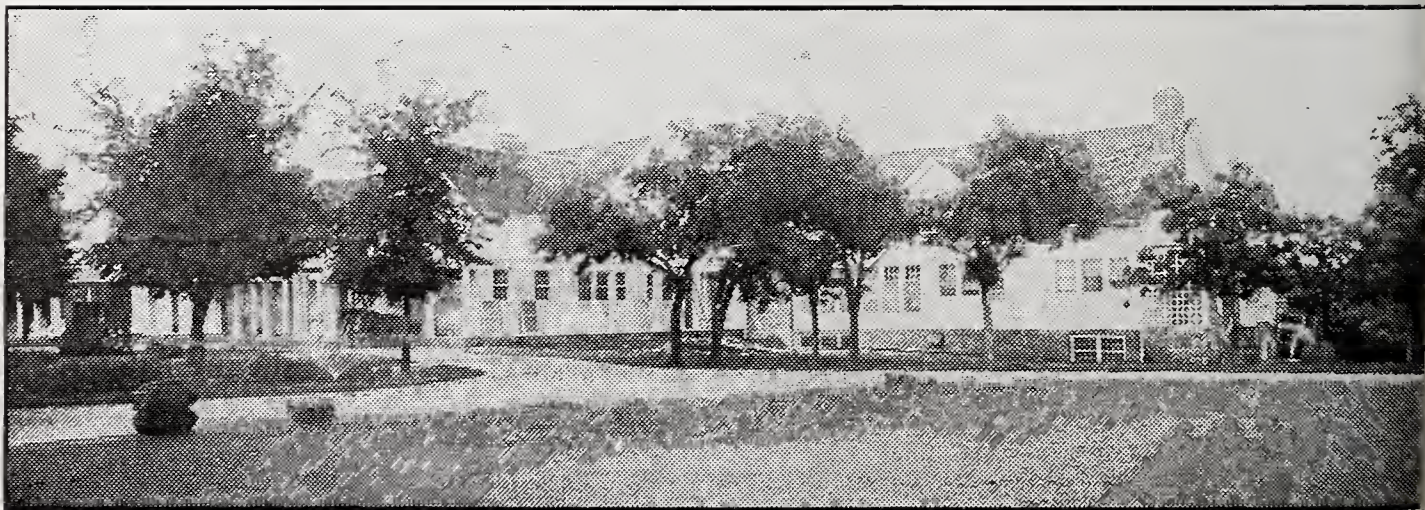
THE REGISTER-GAZETTE, ROCKFORD



ROCKFORD MORNING STAR



NELSON HOTEL, ROCKFORD



COUNTRY CLUB, ROCKFORD

paper, nearly complete, has been preserved in the public library.

The Rockford Star was founded in the autumn of 1840, as a Democratic paper, with Philander Knappen, editor. The printing material was owned by Daniel S. Haight, Daniel Howell, and Adam Keith. The office was located on the southeast corner of Madison and Market streets, in the building erected by Mr. Haight for religious, court and other purposes. This old building long sheltered one of the craft, William G. Conick, on North First street. J. H. Thurston was the "devil" in the office, a role which, according to his own statement, he was eminently qualified to fill. He also became quite an expert compositor. Mr. Thurston subsequently obtained employment on John Wentworth's paper, the Chicago Democrat, on the strength of a letter of Mr. Knappen, to the effect that he was a rapid compositor, could set a clean proof, and could sometimes make sense from Knappen's own manuscript. On April 28, 1841, Mr. Knappen was married to Miss Eliza Simons, of Harlem. Mr. Knappen sent a special wedding invitation to "Long John" Wentworth of Chicago. Mr. Wentworth attended and in his own way contributed to the hilarity of the occasion.

Mr. Knappen had been in Rockford but a short time when the Driscoll tragedy occurred, as a climax of the career of the "bandits of the prairie" in northern Illinois. Mr. Knappen did not understand the temper of the people; and his strong denunciation of the summary execution of the outlaws aroused intense indignation. The citizens proposed to punish the editor. Soon after the issue of the paper the office of the Star was entered in the night and the type reduced to *pi*. Mr. Knappen later turned over the subscription list to Mr. Howell, of the Rockford house, where the office force boarded, and abandoned journalism in this unappreciative village. Mr. Howell did not realize anything from the assets placed in his hands. Thirty years later Mr. Thurston divulged the fact that D. S. Haight, Charles Latimer and Adam Keith were the perpetrators of the mischief. The Democratic luminary had been side-tracked in its orbit.

The Rockford Pilot began its brief career July 22, 1841. Mr. Thurston says he helped distribute the Star *pi*, and with this material assisted in issuing the first four numbers of its

successor. The Pilot was published as a Democratic paper until October, 1842. It could no longer steer clear of the rocks. The editor, John A. Brown, had been defeated for representative; the Democrats had sustained a local defeat of their entire ticket, and on the 30th of October the last number of the Pilot was issued. The Better Covenant, a Universalist paper, was printed at the Pilot office during a portion of this period. Its editor was William Rounseville.

On February 17, 1843, J. Ambrose Wight began the publication of the Winnebago Forum, a Whig paper, with material which had been used in printing the Rockford Star. Mr. Wight was a graduate of Williams College, and first came to Winnebago County in 1836. He was a brother of James M. Wight, with whom he read law for a time. Mr. Wight retired from the Forum August 18, 1843, when he sold the paper to Austin M. Colton. The terms were easy. Mr. Wight said: "He asked me my price. I told him if he would take it off my hands, we would be square." Mr. Colton was more successful than any of his predecessors in the local newspaper field, and his place in local history is that of the best known "country editor" of the old school. Mr. Colton continued the paper under the old name until the close of the first volume in February, 1844, when it was rechristened the Rockford Forum. After Mr. Colton had "written for glory and printed on trust" for ten years, he sold the paper to E. W. Blaisdell, Jr., who came to Rockford in the latter part of 1853. In January of 1854 the new proprietor changed the name of the Forum to the Republican, and took his brother, Richard P. Blaisdell, into partnership. The Republican was published until 1862, when it was purchased by Elias C. Daugherty, and merged into the Rockford Register, of which he was proprietor.

In September, 1848, Henry W. De Puy established the Rockford Free Press, as a Free Soil or Barnburner organ. It was published until February, 1850, when it was discontinued for want of patronage.

The Rock River Democrat was founded in June, 1852, as a Democratic paper, by Benjamin Holt. David T. Dickson afterward purchased an interest. In 1855 Rhenodyne A. Bird became Mr. Holt's successor. The paper was published by Dickson & Bird until May 1, 1864. It was then purchased by Isaiah S. Hyatt, who con-

tinued its publication until June 12, 1865, when the plant was sold to the Register company.

The Rockford Register was founded by E. C. Daugherty in February, 1855. There were already two weekly papers in the field, the Republican and the Democrat, but Mr. Daugherty was confident there was always room at the top. In his prospectus, an original copy of which is sent us by a friend, Mr. Daugherty said he had "selected the flourishing and beautiful city of Rockford as his future home, believing the field ample for a new aspirant to public favor."

Mr. Daugherty had in him the elements of the reformer, and he founded the Register as a strong opponent of the extension of slavery. He made a declaration of his principles in his prospectus. Commencing with a limited capital, and contending against strong opposition, Mr. Daugherty lived to see both the original rival papers, and others, merged into the Register, which became a strong and influential paper. The Register absorbed other papers representing an almost unbroken line since 1840. On June 1, 1859, Mr. Daugherty began the publication of the Daily Register, but it was discontinued at the end of three months. In June, 1865, the Rock River Democrat was merged with the Register, which passed into the hands of a joint stock company. The impaired health of Mr. Daugherty compelled him to retire from active business life. I. S. Hyatt, who had, at two previous periods been connected with the paper as assistant editor, and later the proprietor of the Rock River Democrat, became, under the new management, the principal editor with E. H. Griggs as associate. By reason of breaks in the files, the record of changes in the management of the Register may not be absolutely complete. The possible omissions, however, do not cover more than one or two years. On June 30, 1866, Mr. Hyatt resigned his position as editor, and was succeeded by E. C. Daugherty, who retained the editorial charge of the paper until February 23, 1867, when the condition of his health forced him to retire. Abraham E. and William E. Smith, former proprietors of the Indianapolis Gazette, became associated with E. H. Griggs in the management of the Register. These gentlemen retired June 29, 1867. Mr. Griggs became editor and manager, with J. E. Fox as associate. This management continued until October 7, 1871, when the

name of S. M. Daugherty, widow of the founder of the paper, appeared as proprietor. The following week the Register announced that P. S. Martin was business manager. On January 6, 1873, Geo. E. Wright & Co. began the publication of the Daily Register. It was a morning paper, with no Sunday edition but on November 8, 1873, the Register was changed from a morning to an evening paper. The time had not come, however, for the success of such a venture, and on February 10, 1874, the daily was discontinued. On March 13, 1873, Charles J. Woodbury & Co. assumed the management. Mr. Woodbury was a half-brother of Rev. Frank P. Woodbury, D. D., pastor of the Second Congregational church. Dr. Woodbury had the editorial instinct, and rendered some assistance in an editorial way.

The names of N. D. Wright and M. Collaton appear as members of the Register company on April 16, 1875. In January of the following year Mr. Wright was editor-in-chief; and on July 27, 1877, the Register was issued under the management of N. D. Wright and C. L. Miller. The latter had come to Rockford from Rochelle, where he had been connected with a weekly paper.

On October 1, 1877, the Rockford Daily Register was started upon a permanent basis by Messrs. Wright and Miller, with E. C. Chandler as city editor. Mr. Chandler died in May, 1915, and was buried in Rockford. Early in 1878 E. M. Botsford accepted a reportorial position, and in 1881 he purchased an interest. W. P. Lamb subsequently became a third partner. The firm of Miller, Botsford & Co. continued in the management until January 1, 1891, when Edgar E. Bartlett, W. L. Eaton and Eugene McSweeney, all of Kalamazoo, Mich., purchased the good will of the Daily Register and Daily Gazette, and consolidated them under the firm name of the Register-Gazette. In 1898 Mr. Bartlett purchased the interest of Mr. McSweeney, and in 1901 he purchased Mr. Eaton's interest. In the autumn of that year Mr. Bartlett sold a part interest to Archibald S. Leckie of Chicago, who became managing editor. Two years later, in October, 1903, Fred E. Sterling purchased Mr. Leckie's interest, and became manager of the editorial department. Mr. Bartlett is president of the company and general manager; Mr. Sterling is managing editor, and Elliott S. Bartlett is advertising manager.

The Farmer's Monthly was owned and published for several years by Messrs. Bartlett, Eaton and McSweeney.

The Rockford Wesleyan Seminary Reporter was begun as a monthly publication in October, 1857. Only four numbers of this paper were issued. It was published by Rev. W. F. Stewart in the interest of the proposed Wesleyan seminary. The first number of the Cudgel was issued Jan. 17, 1857. It bore this legend on its title-page: "Published somewhere, circulates everywhere, edited nowhere." It was published semi-monthly, but only seven numbers were printed. Dr. George Haskell began the publication of the Spirit Advocate April 15, 1854. It was an able propagandist of spiritualism. After twenty-three numbers were published, it was consolidated with the Orient, with headquarters at Waukegan. The last number of the Advocate appeared March 15, 1856. A complete file of this paper has been preserved in the Rockford public library.

The Democratic Standard was founded October 30, 1858, by Springsteen & Parks, as a Democratic organ. After about a month the Standard was published by Parks alone, until February 5, 1859, when David G. Croly became proprietor. On May 18, 1859, the proprietorship of the Standard was changed to D. G. Croly & Co., the company being John H. Grove. A paper called the Daily News was established by David G. Croly, February 8, 1859, which was neutral in politics. Its publication was continued until April 30, 1860, when it was suspended for want of patronage. Mr. and Mrs. Croly won national reputation in journalism and letters after their departure from Rockford. Mr. Croly became city editor of the New York World and later was its managing editor. He was the author of biographies of Horatio Seymour and Francis P. Blair, History of Reconstruction, and a Primer of Positivism. He died in 1889. On the suspension of the News, and the retirement of Mr. Croly, the publication of the Standard was continued by John H. Grove and James S. Ticknor for a few months. The paper was then sold to James E. and Joseph H. Fox, who established another paper under the title of the Daily News. It was a Republican paper, and the first number was issued in December, 1860. A few weeks later they began the publication of the Weekly News, which was continued until September 21, 1861. The plant was then sold to

E. C. Daugherty, and its publication was discontinued.

The Crescent Age was founded in 1859. Its editors were Dr. George Haskell and H. P. Kimball. It was a Spiritualist publication, and lived only a short time. The Rock River Mirror was established September 6, 1859, by Allen Gibson. It was neutral in politics, and was printed at the Register office. Later the name of N. C. Thompson appeared as associate editor, and still later the proprietors were Allen Gibson and E. D. Marsh. The People's Press was established July 25, 1865, by W. P. Furey, who published it until May, 1866, when a joint stock company was organized, which continued its publication until September 1, 1866, when it was suspended from lack of patronage. Words for Jesus, a monthly religious publication, was started in October, 1867, by Thomas J. and Hugh Lamont. Leaves from Forest Hill, a monthly, was published for some time during the school year, by the young ladies of Rockford Female seminary.

The Rockford Gazette was founded November 22, 1866, by I. S. Hyatt, as a small advertising sheet. It prospered to such an extent that in the following April it was greatly enlarged, and on April 25, 1867, the name of Benjamin Foltz appeared as editor. On August 29, 1867, the Gazette was issued with the names of Abraham E. and William E. Smith as proprietors. This partnership continued for some years. In 1878 the publishers began a semi-weekly edition, and on August 4, 1879, the Gazette was issued as a daily, and became valuable newspaper property. In 1882 Mr. Smith admitted Col. F. A. Eastman of Chicago, as a partner. This partnership was dissolved the following year, and Mr. Smith continued as sole proprietor until January, 1891, when the paper was merged into the Register-Gazette.

The Winnebago Chief was started November 21, 1866, by J. P. Irvine as editor and proprietor; July 3, 1867, Hiram R. Enoch was admitted as a partner, and the name of the paper was changed to the Winnebago County Chief. Mr. Irvine subsequently retired, and Mr. Enoch remained sole proprietor until December, 1882, when the journal passed into the hands of Foote & Kimball. In March, 1883, the paper was sold to D. Miller & Co., who published it three years. In March, 1886, a Mr. Gardner, from the southern part of the State, purchased a half interest.

This partnership was dissolved, Mr. Gardner taking the job department, and D. Miller & Co. retaining the subscription list and business of the paper. In August, 1887, the Journal was sold to Hon. J. Stanley Browne, by whom its publication was continued until the good will and subscription list became the property of the Rockford Morning Star company.

The Golden Censer was founded May 1, 1868, by John Lemley. It was an undenominational religious and family paper. It was first issued semi-monthly and subsequently changed to a weekly, passing into the hands of a stock company November 1, 1877. The principal stockholders were: O. R. Brouse, Rev. C. E. Mandeville, and N. E. Lyman, who was then president of the People's Bank. The Censer, under this management, attained a circulation of 18,000, the largest ever reached by a Rockford paper. In time, however, the circulation was greatly reduced, until in August, 1896, when the Censer, with barely 2,000 subscribers, was indefinitely suspended. In March, 1897, the Calvert Brothers purchased the good will and material and resumed publication, with Charles A. Church as editor. The policy of the Censer was greatly changed, and an able corps of local contributors was secured. In less than one year the circulation advanced to 6,000. But this number did not make the paper self-sustaining. In April, 1898, Charles A. Church became sole proprietor, and on June 1st of the same year the good will of the paper was sold to a Chicago publication.

The Christian Gleaner, a monthly, was published at the Censer office for some years. It was made up of selections from the Censer, and contained very little original matter. The subscription list was finally absorbed by the Censer about 1891. The Rockford Daily Journal was started in August, 1870, by Lumley & Carpenter. It lived two days. Andrus' Illustrated Monthly was founded in January, 1872, by D. A. K. and W. D. E. Andrus. It was discontinued in September, 1873. The Methodist Free Press was started by John Lemley in September, 1872, and was continued until January, 1875. The Curiosity Hunter was issued in September, 1872, as a monthly by D. A. K. Andrus, and was continued until July, 1874. In 1876 it was resumed at Belvidere. Nowadays was launched by E. C. Chandler & Co., January 1, 1874. Only one number was issued. Rockford Sunday Herald

was started May 11, 1879, by E. C. Chandler. It was discontinued December 21, 1879. The People's Champion was launched by E. W. Blaisdell September 29, 1880. Only five numbers were issued. Our Home and Science Gossip was started by D. A. K. Andrus in March, 1881, and was continued about two years. The Rockford Seminary Magazine was founded in January, 1873, with the name of Caroline A. Potter, class of 1855, as editor. In later years the magazine was edited by the senior class. After the seminary was raised to the rank of a college in 1891, the name of the paper was changed to the Rockford Collegian. Its publication was discontinued in 1895. One number of Stamp News was issued in 1873 by D. A. K. Andrus.

The Rockford Industrial Times began a brief career in February, 1874, with W. F. Barrows as editor. A few months later the name was changed to the Hornet. The second volume began with a second change in name, the Rockford Times. John R. Coursen and Fred Dayton were the proprietors. The issue of August 4, 1875, announced that Mr. Coursen had sold his interest to Louis A. Manlove. The first number of the Rockford Daily News was issued January 26, 1878, by D. A. K. Andrus, Geo. W. Sherer and F. O. Bennett. Sunday morning, June 3, 1878, the Daily News created a great sensation by publishing a harrowing story of a communist attack upon the government. When it was learned that the story had no foundation in fact, Mayor Watson ordered the office closed by the city marshal. After many changes the Daily News suspended in October, 1880. The Western Banner was established as a temperance paper in 1878, by J. E. Hampton, F. Wilson and H. S. Wilbur. The paper was printed on a hand press in the office of the Rockford Journal. It died December 19, 1878. The Morning Herald was started June 11, 1881, by Miller & Welch. It was published until October, 1882.

The Rockford Furniture Journal was founded in 1888. A leading spirit in the agitation for a trade paper was the late Lyon P. Ross, who was then secretary of the Forest City furniture factory. The Furniture Journal company was organized, in which A. F. Judd and George W. Sherer were the principal stockholders. The Journal was published monthly nearly two years, when the subscription list and good will of the paper were sold to Abraham E. Smith.



James B. Gregory



Carrie S. Gregory

About 1894 Mr. Smith sold an interest to P. D. Francis, and a year or two later, he sold his remaining interest to J. Newton Nind. Messrs. Francis & Nind continued its publication for some years in Rockford. In the meantime other trade papers were purchased and consolidated. The publication office was removed to Chicago, and the Journal, now a semi-monthly, is one of the most prosperous trade papers in the west.

The Monitor, a weekly publication in the interest of the Prohibition party, issued its first number in May, 1885. It was published by the Prohibition company, with James Lamont as secretary and editor. In 1890 the Monitor was sold to James Lamont and Charles M. Whipple. Its publication was continued by the Monitor Publishing company until July, 1897, when, owing to business troubles the Monitor was suspended. The Chicago Lever was purchased in 1892 by the Monitor Publishing company, and brought to Rockford. It was published each Thursday and was a national organ of the Prohibition party. James Lamont was editor. In July, 1897, the Lever was sold to James Lamont and Liberty Walkup, who, in February, 1899, sold it to Dickie & Woolley, and the office of publication was transferred to Chicago. In September, 1899, it was merged with the New Voice of Chicago. The Sunday Mercury, started in December, 1890, by C. H. Seiders and Alex Majors, was a creditable paper, but only a few numbers were published.

The Rockford Morning Star is the first successful morning newspaper published in the city. The late Hon. J. Stanley Browne, the editor-in-chief, came to Rockford in 1887. He had served two terms as a Democratic member of the New York legislature from Otsego County, and for five years was secretary to Lieutenant-Governor Dorsheimer, when Samuel J. Tilden was governor. Mr. Browne's first newspaper work in Rockford was in 1887, when he became editor and publisher of the Rockford Journal. In the following spring a stock company was organized for the publication of the Morning Star, and March 20 the first number was issued. Many changes have been made in the business and reportorial staff, but, with a brief interim, Mr. Browne was editorially connected with the Star from the first. Mr. Browne died at Rockford November 14, 1915. He has been succeeded as managing editor by John V. Riley, for many

years connected with the Star as advertising manager. Roscoe S. Chapman is publisher and general business manager.

In the spring of 1890 the Republican, now the Republic, company was organized with a capital of \$10,000, of which about \$7,000 was paid in. The first board of directors was as follows: W. H. Worthington, H. H. Robinson, H. C. Scovill, W. G. Conick, H. O. Hilton, W. J. Johnson, Harry Marean, C. H. Godfrey, J. A. Johnson. The first number of the Republican was issued April 10, 1900, with H. O. Hilton as editor; Harry Marean, business manager, and Will J. Johnson, city editor. The Republican was a morning daily, without a Sunday edition. In politics the paper was radical Republican. In 1893 C. D. Allyn, who had been on the staff of the old Daily Gazette, purchased an interest, and the company issued an evening edition. There were several changes in the business management, Mr. Marean being succeeded in turn by Will J. Johnson, W. H. Worthington and C. D. Allyn. In 1896 Charles L. Miller, Harry M. Johnson and John E. Warfield purchased a controlling interest in the plant. The name was changed to the Republic. The officers of the company are: C. L. Miller, president; H. M. Johnson, vice-president; H. T. Peterson, secretary and treasurer; H. W. Pollard, business manager. Thomas Barney Thompson is managing editor.

In 1892 Charles A. Church organized a stock company, with a capital of \$5,000, for the publication of the Spectator. Abraham E. Smith was business manager, and the paper was printed in the office of the Smith Publishing company. The first number was issued May 21, 1892. The Spectator was strictly a literary and family paper with an able corps of contributors. Among the latter were the late Mrs. Eva T. Clark, Mrs. Marie T. Perry, Mrs. Caroline A. P. Brazee, Mrs. Mary Urquhart Lee, Mrs. H. M. Johnson, Hon. Charles E. Fuller of Belvidere, and the Rev. C. H. Moscrip of Rockford. From a literary point of view, the Spectator was eminently successful, but the expense of maintaining it was far beyond the receipts that a new paper of its kind was able to command. After one year the distinctive features of the Spectator were abandoned and the paper was issued as a daily. The first number appeared May 15, 1893. The financial stringency which came so suddenly upon the country dur-

ing the summer seriously embarrassed the principal stockholder of the Smith Publishing company, which had absorbed the Spectator company, and in August, 1893, the daily was suspended. The following autumn the publication of the Spectator was resumed as a local weekly, and continued until the spring of 1895, when the subscription list was sold to the Monitor company.

The Weekly Recorder was started in May, 1896, by Will J. Johnson. It kept up a spirited existence until October, 1899, when the paper was sold to H. O. Hilton, who issued a few numbers, and about January 1st the paper was discontinued. It was in the Recorder that Mr. Johnson began his "Knudson column," which has been a regular feature in other Rockford papers for fifteen years. This feature has given the author an extended reputation as a humorist in Swedish dialect.

The Owl has been published nearly every year since 1885 as the paper of the Rockford High school. The editor, business manager and staff have been chosen each year from the senior class. In October, 1915, the Owl was made a weekly. The Rockford Trade Journal and Furniture Review was issued in June, 1891, by the Forest City Publishing company. It was later merged with the Furniture Journal. The Winnebago County Schools, the Agricultural West, the Rockford Labor Journal, and the Constitution, all had brief careers. The Journal of Practical Nursing was started in 1888. It was edited by L. C. Brown, M. D. The Rockford Air Brush was started in 1891, in the interest of the company of that name. The Union Printer made its first appearance April 25, 1898. The People's Journal made its first appearance Sept. 21, 1894. It was published by the Calvert Brothers. The Forest City was published in 1895-'6 by Tomblin Brothers. The Advocate was launched in December, 1884, by W. G. Dustin, in the interest of real estate. The Rockford Chief was published for a time by Mrs. E. Hetherington, beginning October 22, 1892. The Rockford Union Record was started October 31, 1903, by John W. Aspegren. It was published in the interest of organized labor. The Hammer, published by Dr. E. S. Tebbetts in the interest of socialism, has ceased to exist.

SWEDISH NEWSPAPERS.

The large Swedish population of Rockford has created a demand for a newspaper published in the language of their fatherland. Attempts have been made to supply this need, as many as eight Swedish newspapers having been started. One of these was the Posten, which was launched by C. Ebbesen, January 4, 1889. It was first published in the Crotty block on East State street. Subsequently the publication office was removed to the Union block, on Kishwaukee street. Mr. Ebbesen was succeeded in turn by C. J. Sjostrom, Fred Swenson, and Prof. C. A. Wendell. The present editor is Charles E. Sandberg. The paper is now called The Svenska Posten.

Nya Sverige was started in March, 1872, by A. W. Schalin. It lived but a short time. Rockford's Allehanda was established June 18, 1884, by Otto Pallin. The name was changed to Svenska Fria-Pressen, and was published by C. Ebbesen about four years. Jultomten, by C. Ebbesen, was published Saturdays, 1st, 8th, 15th and 22d of December, 1888. Rockford's Harold was established by Magnus Larson April 12, 1902. One number was issued. Framtiden was first issued April 13, 1892, by the Framtiden Publishing Co. It was published three or four years. Forskaren was started Sept. 4, 1893, by E. Fjellander and F. Malmquist. Folkets Rost was issued by Charles Henry, March 18, 1895. Four numbers were published. Framat was started by Swenson & Bjork, September 15, 1903.

The German population of Rockford has never been large, yet it has for many years supported a church and a newspaper. The Germania was founded as a four-page weekly by John Pingle in 1885. He was succeeded by Herr Ferd Stedinger, who for many years was head of the German department in the Rockford High school. The Germania is now published by Gustave H. Deppe.

The Catholic Monthly was founded in 1909, with Rev. Thomas Finn and Rev. Martin J. McEvoy as editors, and Rev. Thomas Finn, publisher.

The Labor News was established as a weekly in 1913. W. B. Potter is editor and publisher.

The foregoing is believed to be the first complete story of Rockford newspapers ever published. The list might be continued by the mention of various monthly bulletins issued by

the churches from time to time, the Y. M. C. A., the Business college, and similar organizations. While these performed a legitimate function in their way, they scarcely have a place in the chronicle of Rockford newspapers.

COUNTRY PRESS.

The press of Rockford has not been the exclusive purveyor of local news. Several newspapers have been started in the other towns of the county.

The Rockton Gazette was established at Rockton in 1857, by Funk & Phelps. Mr. Funk retired and the paper was continued about one year by H. W. Phelps. The office and fixtures were removed to Burlington, Wis. The Pecatonica Independent was established in May, 1859, by J. E. Duncan. It was published about one year, when the office was removed to Darlington, Wis.

The Pecatonica News was started as a weekly newspaper December 1, 1872. W. A. and Nate L. Colby were editors and proprietors. On January 1, 1881, W. A. Colby sold his interest to his brother, who continued its publication up to the time of his death, July 11, 1904. Gilbert F., a son of N. L. Colby, is now editor and publisher.

The Rockton Herald was founded in 1875. It is now edited by R. I. Balsley.

The Winnebago Reflector was established February 11, 1887, published by the Winnebago C. L. S. C. C. W. Mellen is the present publisher.

The Rockton Weekly Echo was established December 15, 1887. L. H. Cook was editor and publisher. There was only one issue. The Cherry Valley Courier was established July, 1869, by Dr. L. Foote, editor and publisher. It was published three months.

The Winnebago County Advertiser was established in 1869 by M. G. Sheldon.

The papers established at Durand have been: The Argus, established December 29, 1883, by E. E. Pettingill; the Free Press, established March 24, 1888, by Johnson Potter; the Weekly Echo, established June 30, 1887, by L. H. Cook, editor and publisher; thirty numbers issued; the Weekly Times, established February 7, 1890, by E. E. Pettingill, publisher; seven numbers issued; the Record, established April 30, 1890, by John R. Bertsch, discontinued August 1, 1890;

the Weekly Clipper, established April 17, 1891, by E. I. Schoolcraft; and the Gazette, founded in 1907, and edited by Charles A. Bancroft.

CHAPTER XIX.

RAILROADS.

FIRST RAILROAD PROJECTED—CHARTER GRANTED IN 1836—GALENA AND CHICAGO UNION RAILROAD COMPANY—SURVEY OF ROUTE—LACK OF FINANCIAL STRENGTH SUSPENDS WORK—INTEREST CONTINUED IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY—FIRST RAILROAD MEETING HELD AT ROCKFORD—CONVENTION AT ROCKFORD IN 1846—GREAT ENTHUSIASM AROUSED—SUBSCRIPTIONS TO STOCK—LEADERS IN THE WORK—THE ORIGINAL PLAN—WORK RESUMED IN 1847—AN AMENDED CHARTER SECURED—NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTED—WILLIAM B. OGDEN PRESIDENT—ENGINES PURCHASED IN 1848—ONE EXHIBITED AT COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION IN 1893—EXTENSIONS OF LINE—ROAD BROUGHT PROSPERITY TO ROCKFORD—SALE OF RIGHT OF WAY—PRESENT CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN—LOCAL AGENTS—KENOSHA & ROCKFORD RAILROAD—ROCKFORD, ROCK ISLAND & ST. LOUIS—ROCKFORD CENTRAL—CHICAGO & SUPERIOR—CHICAGO, ROCKFORD & NORTHERN—THE RAILROAD WAR—CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL—CHICAGO, BURLINGTON & QUINCY—ILLINOIS CENTRAL—CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & GARY.

FIRST RAILROAD PROJECTED.

January 16, 1836, a charter was granted by the legislature to the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad Company, to construct a railroad with a single or double track, from Galena to Chicago. The capital stock was to be \$100,000, with the privilege of increase to a sum not exceeding \$1,000,000. William Bennett, Thomas Drummond, J. C. Goodhue, Peter Semple, J. M. Turner, E. D. Taylor, and J. B. Thomas, Jr., were made commissioners for receiving subscriptions to the capital stock. At that time Galena was the leading village of this western country, and this fact explains the precedence given to

that name in the title of the road. The company was given three years in which to commence operations. Either animal or steam-power might be used. The charter was obtained mainly through the influence of Ebenezer Peck and T. W. Smith. The Galena & Chicago Union was the first railroad chartered to be built from Chicago, upon which work was immediately begun. The road became an important factor in the great transportation system of Chicago, as well as the towns along the line. Thirteen months after the charter was granted, the survey of the proposed route was begun by an engineer, James Seymour, and was extended from the foot of North Dearborn street as far as the Des Plaines River. Work was suspended in June, 1838, but resumed the following year, and piles were driven along the line of Madison street, and stringers placed upon them. It soon became evident, however, that Chicago's financial strength was not equal to her ambition, and the enterprise was temporarily abandoned. The suspension of operations was a source of profound regret to the citizens of the Rock river valley, who had made several attempts to obtain better connection with Chicago, first by means of the contemplated road, and later by canal. These schemes did not prove feasible, and other plans were substituted.

The agitation was continued in Winnebago County for several years. The first railroad meeting in Rockford was held November 28, 1845. Anson S. Miller was chosen chairman, and Selden M. Church, secretary. The meeting was addressed by Hon. Martin P. Sweet. It was resolved that those counties interested in the construction of a railroad from Galena to Chicago be recommended to send delegates to a convention to be held in Rockford, January 7, 1846, for the purpose of taking measures for the construction of the road at the earliest possible time. On December 5, 1845, a meeting was held in Chicago to select delegates to the Rockford convention. Mayor A. Garrett presided, and Isaac N. Arnold was secretary. The convention was held at Rockford January 7, 1846. Delegates were present to the number of 319 from the counties proposed to be traversed by the line, Cook, DeKalb, McHenry, Rock, Ogle, Boone, Lee, Kane, Stephenson, Winnebago and Jo Daviess. Winnebago and probably other counties, sent a larger delegation than had been authorized by the preliminary meeting. A com-

mittee of one from each county was appointed to report resolutions which would express the views of the convention. The chair appointed the following committee: J. Y. Scammon, of Cook; George T. Kasson, of McHenry; Charles S. Hempstead, of Jo Daviess; M. G. Dana, of Ogle; James S. Waterman, of DeKalb; William H. Gilman, of Boone; John A. Clark, of Stephenson; A. B. Wells, of Kane; S. M. Church, of Winnebago; L. G. Fisher, of Wisconsin Territory.

The following resolutions, presented by J. Young Scammon, in behalf of the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following resolutions, which were adopted without a dissenting vote:

"Resolved, That the wants of the farmers and business men of northern Illinois require the immediate construction of a railroad from Chicago to Galena. That the value of farms upon the route would be doubled by the construction of the road, and the convenience of the inhabitants immeasurably profited thereby.

"Resolved, That in order to accomplish the object of this convention, it is indispensably necessary that the inhabitants and owners of property between Galena and Chicago should come forward and subscribe to the stock of the proposed railroad, to the extent of their ability; and that if each farmer upon the route shall take at least one share of the stock (\$100), the completion of the road would be placed beyond contingency."

This action enkindled enthusiasm along the entire line, but before the necessary subscriptions had been secured, Messrs. Townsend and Mather, who owned the original charter, offered the same, together with the land and such improvements as had already been made, to the citizens of Chicago, for the sum of \$20,000. The terms contemplated the payment of the entire sum in stock of the new company; \$10,000 immediately after the election and organization of the board of directors, and the remaining \$10,000 on the completion of the road to Rock River, or as soon as dividends of 6 per cent. had been earned. This proposition was accepted. The purchasers subscribed from their own means for the expense of the survey on December 6, 1846, and the following year the work was begun. It was decided to open subscription books at Chicago and at Galena, as well as at the several settlements through which the



Lawrence A. Gustafson

road was to pass. The task of canvassing among the farmers between the proposed termini was undertaken by William B. Ogden. J. Young Scammon solicited funds in Chicago, but the subscriptions came in slowly. Only \$20,000 was obtained at the outset from all the real estate men and others who might have been supposed to have been especially interested. Certain business men in Chicago opposed the construction of the road on the ground that it might divert business from Chicago to other points along the line. Mr. Ogden met with better success in the rural districts. Even the women were willing to undergo many privations of a personal character, that they might assist in the construction of an iron highway, which they believed would prove of great benefit to the succeeding generations. The citizens of Rockford and farmers in the adjoining districts made liberal subscriptions to stock. John A. Holland and T. D. Robertson were the most active local promoters of the enterprise.

The original plan was to secure as large a local subscription to the capital stock as possible, and then apply to eastern capitalists for such advances, either in the form of subscriptions to capital stock or loans, as might be found necessary. The interest in the enterprise, however, was such that by April 1, 1848, 126 subscribers had taken \$351,800 worth of stock. It was therefore concluded that the road should be constructed and owned by residents of the territory through which it was to pass. In September, 1847, a corps of engineers was engaged for surveys, and work was begun. Unexpected obstacles were encountered, and it was impossible for the directors to make the first contract for construction until near the close of the year. Contracts for the grading and bridging of twenty-five additional miles were made in March, 1848. Meanwhile, in February, 1847, an amended charter had been secured, under the terms of which a new board of directors was elected and changes were subsequently made. William B. Ogden, the president of the company, and also a member of the city council of Chicago, endeavored in the latter capacity to secure the passage of an ordinance giving the company the right of way into the city, with other incidental privileges. The ordinance failed to pass, but the road was granted the privilege of constructing a temporary track, in order to facilitate the hauling of necessary

material through the city. The first civil engineer of the reorganized company was John Van Nortwick, and in June, 1848, his assistant, George W. Waite, drove the first grading peg, at the corner of Kinzie and Halsted streets.

In September, 1848, the directors purchased two engines from eastern companies. The first, the Pioneer, arrived in Chicago October 10 following. All engines in those days were given names, as steamers are named today. They were clumsy in appearance and workmanship; but they rendered efficient service. The Pioneer was unloaded from the brig Buffalo, on the Sunday following its arrival in Chicago. At first it ran simply as a motor for hauling material for construction; but December 15, 1848, it started from Chicago at the head of the first train which left the city over the four miles of track. In the rear of the Pioneer were six freight cars, extemporized into passenger coaches. The engineer in charge was John Ebbert. As the road developed, Mr. Ebbert was promoted until he became master mechanic of the road. His death occurred in Chicago August 21, 1899, at the age of eighty-five years. The first engineer, however, who ran the Pioneer as far west as Rockford was I. D. Johnson. In 1854 Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Delia, a daughter of Samuel Gregory. Mr. Johnson died at his home in Chicago February 24, 1899, and was buried in Rockford. The Pioneer was on exhibition at the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893, under the charge of its former master, Engineer Ebbert, and attracted great attention as an example of primitive ideas in locomotive construction. It is now an exhibit at the Field Columbian Museum, Chicago.

The line was extended to Elgin, forty miles west, in January, 1850. Nearly \$165,000 had been expended for construction up to that time. The rolling-stock was then an object of admiration; but it is now only of interest as a relic of the day of small things. The track was laid as far west as Belvidere in the spring of 1852, and to Cherry Valley March 10 of the same year. August 2, 1852, a train on the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad arrived in East Rockford. Its advent was signalized by the ringing of bells and the firing of cannon. The iron horse was greeted by the populace as the successor of the horse and wagon and oxen and driver and whip. From that day Rockford began to make rapid strides in wealth, popula-

tion, and commercial importance; and the Forum took the flattering unction to its soul that Chicago and Galena might be soon "looking this way with a jealous eye lest they become eclipsed in greatness by the city of the Rock river valley."

On September 1, 1853, the company had extended its main line to Freeport, 120 miles from Chicago. Notwithstanding the fact that there was no little enthusiasm in Galena over the extension of the line to that point, Fate decreed that Galena should be connected with Chicago by another line. The Galena & Chicago Union sold its right of way to the Illinois Central. It has been said that had the great Central system made a connection with Rockford at that early date, the population of the city would have been materially increased. At the close of 1858 the Galena & Chicago Union company was free from a floating debt; but it had a funded indebtedness of \$3,783,015. The earnings of the Galena & Chicago Union railroad for August, 1854, were \$103,000. The earnings for the corresponding month the preceding year were \$48,000.

PRESENT CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN.

The system owned and operated by the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company, as it exists at the present time, is a consolidation of not less than forty-five distinct roads. On June 2, 1864, was effected a consolidation of the Galena & Chicago Union and the Chicago & Northwestern companies, under the name of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company. The old Galena & Chicago Union had been legitimately built, and was never bonded; and when it was purchased by the Chicago & Northwestern, the stock held by the old subscribers in the Galena road was exchanged for stock in the new company. The consolidation was effected by Samuel J. Tilden, who was one of the greatest railroad lawyers of his time. The Galena had been a profitable road; and its consolidation was one of the first in northern Illinois. On the directing board of the present road, Rockford was honorably represented by Thomas D. Robertson, of Rockford, who was a director of the road from 1864 to 1867. Charles H. Spafford was local agent of the Northwestern for several years. He resigned January 18, 1868, and was succeeded by Thomas B. Gault. Later succes-

sors have been: J. P. Perkins, A. T. Golly and J. J. Carty, the present incumbent.

KENOSHA & ROCKFORD.

In 1856 was projected a railroad to connect Kenosha on Lake Michigan with Rockford. It was a part of the original plan that this line should extend from Rockford to Rock Island. On January 20, 1857, a charter was granted to John M. Capron, Egbert Ayer, Thomas Paul, John Cornell, W. B. Ogden, John Bradley, Jason Marsh, George Haskell, David S. Penfield, Robert P. Lane, C. C. Briggs, C. H. Spafford, A. S. Miller, Jesse Blinn and Seely Perry. The company was to have a capital stock of \$800,000, and was authorized to construct a road from a point near the state line in McHenry County to Rockford. This road was built as a means of relieving Rockford from burdens imposed by the high freight and passenger rates of the Galena & Chicago Union. Books for subscriptions to the stock of the road were opened early in November, 1856, and on the 25th of the same month the company was organized by the election of the following officers: President, C. H. Spafford; vice-president, R. P. Lane; secretary, E. H. Baker; treasurer, A. C. Spafford; executive committee, J. Bond, J. M. Capron, R. P. Lane, D. S. Penfield and Seely Perry. The subscriptions were made largely by farmers along the line, who gave mortgages on their real estate to secure their payments. The company negotiated these mortgages in payment for iron, labor and other expenses in the building of the road. When these obligations matured many of the subscribers could not redeem them, and the holders of the mortgages foreclosed them. The contract for the construction of the road to Harvard was made in March, 1857, and the work was begun shortly afterward. The eastern division of the road was under the control of another company, organized under a charter from the Wisconsin legislature. The progress of construction was impeded by financial embarrassments, arising from the great depression which spread over the country in 1857, and the enterprise languished. In August, 1858, the company applied to the council of Rockford for a loan of the city credit to the amount of \$50,000 to aid in the completion of the road. An election was held September 2, and the measure was carried. This is the only instance in the

history of Rockford of the loan of the credit of the corporation to a railroad. On November 21, 1859, the road was completed between Rockford and Harvard, and the event was celebrated by a banquet at the Holland House the same evening. In 1864, the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad Company was absorbed by the Chicago & Northwestern, and the Kenosha & Rockford road, as a matter of course, soon came under the same control.

ROCKFORD, ROCK ISLAND & ST. LOUIS.

The citizens of Rockford, at an early period, recognized the value of more than one railroad for their expanding industrial life. The cry of "soulless corporations" was even then a familiar sound. Various projects were elaborated on paper, and several charters were obtained from the general assembly, which in those days enacted a vast amount of special legislation. One of the most ambitious of these schemes was the Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis railroad, which was chartered in 1865. Thomas D. Robertson and Selden M. Church were among the incorporators. It was proposed to build a road from Rockford to Sterling and Rock Island; thence to a point on the eastern bank of the Mississippi River, opposite St. Louis. A special town meeting was held in Rockford in April, 1870, to vote on the proposition of taking \$50,000 railroad stock. There were 1,655 votes cast, of which only 503 were against the proposed subscription. The general principle of the validity of township bonds, issued in aid of railroad construction, was subsequently upheld by the state supreme court. Routes were surveyed, but track was never laid above Sterling. Thus Rockford eventually figured only in the title of the road.

ROCKFORD CENTRAL.

The failure of this proposed line did not discourage other efforts. The Rockford Central railroad was incorporated March 4, 1869. Dr. Robert P. Lane, G. A. Sanford, Ralph Emerson, Moses Bartlett, Selden M. Church, of Rockford, Marvin T. Ellingwood, Charles B. Johnson, Joshua White and Franklin Corwin were the incorporators and constituted the first board of directors. The capital stock was to be \$1,000,000, of which Rockford citizens were to sub-

scribe \$125,000. The line was to begin at or near Mendota, on the Illinois Central; from there to Rochelle, thence north through Rockford to the state line, to connect with Wisconsin roads. The general office of the company was to be in Rockford, where the books of record were to be kept. Dr. R. P. Lane was chosen president. On June 26, 1871, Dr. Lane issued a call inviting the citizens to attend the formal breaking of ground for the Rockford Central railroad. Three days later this ceremony was performed just west of Kent's Creek near West State street, amid the booming of cannon and the ringing of bells. Mayor S. G. Bronson delivered an address. Grading was done on Cedar and State streets, thence northward about two miles. Twelve miles of grading was also completed below the Kishwaukee, between Rochelle and Rockford. This grading, however, was never used for railroad purposes. The construction of this road was well under way when plans were made for merging with two Wisconsin lines. The consolidation of the Rockford Central, Madison & Portage, and the Sugar River Valley railroads was completed at Madison, Dec. 6, 1871. The Rockford line was to extend eighteen miles nearly due northwest from Rockford, to a point thirteen miles west of Beloit. The stockholders of the several lines ratified the action January 3, 1872, and the Rockford Central Railroad passed into history.

CHICAGO & SUPERIOR.

The name of the consolidated company was the Chicago & Superior Railroad. James Campbell, of Madison, was chosen president; R. P. Lane, vice president. Dr. Lane and Ralph Emerson, of Rockford, and George Youngs, of Stillman Valley, were members of the board of directors. The fulness of time had not come, however for Rockford to have another road. Money is the sinew of railroad construction as well as of war. It was not forthcoming from local sources, and the aid of foreign capital was invoked. James Campbell, the president of the road, and Robert H. Tinker, of Rockford, went to London to negotiate the sale of the bonds of the Chicago & Superior railroad. After prolonged negotiations they secured a provisional agreement from Strousberg, Bray & Co., of London, to take the bonds at 85 cents

in gold. The firm sent an engineer to look over the situation and he presented a favorable report. This was in the summer of 1873, immediately preceding the failure of Jay Cooke & Company, of New York, which was the forerunner of a general financial panic which swept over the country. Its influence extended to the old world, and before the engineer previously mentioned had sailed from New York, the firm of Strousburg, Bray & Co. had collapsed. When Dr. Strousberg died a few years later the London Standard said of him: "Twelve or thirteen years ago the announcement of the death of Dr. Bethel Strousberg, the famous German contractor, would have interested half the bourses of Europe. Today a line or two in the obituary columns of the newspapers is the measure of regard which is accorded to one who, in the height of his prosperity, was more talked about in Berlin than any man except Count Bismarck."

CHICAGO, ROCKFORD & NORTHERN.

During the progress of these events, the Chicago & Iowa Railroad had been built from Aurora to Forreston. F. E. Hinckley was president of the road. During the summer of 1874 Mr. Hinckley proposed to build a branch from Rochelle to Rockford, and invited the co-operation of the citizens of Rockford. He asked that they subscribe for first mortgage bonds to the amount of \$200,000, to bear 8 per cent interest, payable semi-annually, and further secured by traffic guaranty of the Chicago & Iowa road to 25 per cent of its gross earnings. A mass meeting was held in Rockford in September; the citizens made a generous response to Mr. Hinckley's overture, and in October it was announced that the full amount had been subscribed. The newspapers up to this time had referred to this latest enterprise as the Rockford Central; but legal complications over bonds and the old name were feared, and in November a new charter was secured, under the name of the Chicago, Rockford & Northern Railroad. Robert H. Tinkler was president of the road.

The work of construction was pushed with energy. The bridge was completed over Rock River at Rockford in July, 1875. Trains were running a few days later, and thus, after many years, Rockford's dream of a new railroad was

realized. The final success of the Chicago & Rockford Northern was due in no small measure to R. H. Tinkler. The Rockford Journal said to him: "More particularly are we indebted to our worthy mayor, R. H. Tinkler, for his persistent, indefatigable and never-ceasing labors. He was largely interested in the original Rockford Central, and he did not propose to see the money spent on that road thrown away, and the project abandoned. He was made of sterner stuff." The Chicago, Rockford & Northern equipment was leased by the Chicago & Iowa, and the line was always designated by that name. Its official title was preserved only in its charter.

CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL.

The next chapter in the railroad history of Rockford deals with the advent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul line. It was preceded by what is known as "the railroad war." There had been two bond issues of the Chicago, Rockford & Northern road, on each of which there had been foreclosure proceedings. A receiver had also been appointed for the Chicago & Iowa, and there was then a network of complications of long standing.

On March 30, 1881, the first Milwaukee locomotive ever seen in Rockford arrived and was stationed nearly opposite the C. & I. depot. C. H. Atkins, superintendent of the Chicago & Pacific division of the Milwaukee & St. Paul road, with several other railroad officials, entered the depot and informed the agent, A. A. Morse, that he had come with orders to take possession of the road. The agent refused to vacate, and he and A. G. Everett, the telegraph operator, were forcibly ejected. A warrant was promptly sought by Agent Morse for the arrest of Atkins and his associates, and placed in the hands of Sheriff Hutchins and his deputies. The intruders were placed under arrest and released on their own recognizances, pending a hearing. Meanwhile Agent Morse remained in possession. It was claimed that the Milwaukee & St. Paul road made this move under a lease executed March 29, by Joel D. Harvey, the new president of the Chicago, Rockford & Northern road, and authorized by the board of directors. It was also stated that the Milwaukee took possession in this sensational manner because it had been intimated

that if it proposed to take possession under the lease, F. E. Hinckley, the promoter of the road, would thwart the purpose. The Milwaukee always maintained that the lease under which the Chicago & Iowa had been operating the Chicago, Rockford & Northern was not valid and never authorized by either road. The following day President Harvey, C. C. Jones and Colonel C. M. Brazee went to Freeport and secured an order from Judge William Brown, ordering Mr. Jones, as receiver of the Chicago, Rockford & Northern, to take full possession, which he did April 1, with the aid of Sheriff Hutchins. The tables, however, were quickly turned. Judge Eustace, of Dixon, went to Freeport, where he discussed the matter with Judge Brown. Judge Eustace stated that W. H. Holcomb had been appointed receiver of the Chicago & Iowa by his order, and that Judge Brown had no right to issue a conflicting order. The two judges conferred with Judge Bailey, who sustained the contention of Judge Eustace. Judge Brown thereupon issued an order vacating his previous order, and Judge Eustace ordered Sheriff Hutchins to take possession for Receiver Holcomb.

The case was continued at Freeport, April 11, when the three judges of the circuit unanimously decided Receiver Holcomb was in rightful possession. This proceeding did not long delay the advent of the Milwaukee road into Rockford. The company had secured control of the old Western Union, which connected Rockton and Durand, and built a track from Rockton to Rockford, entering the city from the north, November 6, 1881. A contract was signed in Chicago by which the Milwaukee road secured from the Chicago & Iowa a lease of its track from Davis Junction into Rockford. The first train arrived in Rockford from the south November 21, 1881.

CHICAGO, BURLINGTON & QUINCY.

The Chicago & Iowa and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul roads occupied the same track and right of way about ten years. Meanwhile the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy road absorbed the Chicago & Iowa. The old name was retained for a time, but in 1892 the Burlington began to operate the line under its own name. The lease of the track to the Milwaukee was continued.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD.

In 1886 the Illinois Central Railroad Company projected a division from Chicago through Winnebago County to Freeport, Ill., thence to Madison, Wis. Surveys were begun in this county August 9. On the same day a meeting of local shippers was held in Rockford, when a general desire was expressed that the line should touch the city. September 13 the city council passed an ordinance by a unanimous vote, granting the right to enter the city. November 30, after the company had purchased the right of way, the council passed an amended ordinance.

Early in January, 1888, Robert H. Tinker sold a tract of land lying between South Main and Winnebago streets to the Illinois Central Company for \$50,000. The historic "Manny mansion" was on this ground, and its conversion to railroad purposes required the razing of the structure. The freight house was completed in March. The first passenger train over the new division entered Rockford from the east Sunday, August 5, 1888. The passenger depot was opened to the public on that day. E. G. Russell was the first superintendent of the division; and E. W. Brown was chosen local agent, a position he has continuously held to this day.

In 1915 the Central completed its second bridge across Rock River at Rockford. It is 800 feet in length, with spans of 69 feet. When the entire work is completed for the double track it will have cost the company nearly a quarter of a million dollars.

I. I. & M.—C. M. & G. RAILWAY.

The Illinois, Iowa & Minnesota Railway Company was incorporated in December, 1902. The line was completed to Rockford in October, 1905. On March 7, 1908, the Chicago, Milwaukee & Gary Railway Company was incorporated, as a consolidation of a company of the same name with the Illinois, Iowa & Minnesota Railway Company and other lines. The company owns track from Joliet to Delmar, Ill., 39 miles; Aurora, Ill., to Rockford, 65 miles; total, 104 miles; trackage on Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway, Aurora to Joliet, 24 miles; total operated, 128 miles. The stocks and bonds of the road having a face value of \$11,239,000, were sold at auction in St. Louis October 15,

1915, for \$2,066,000. The securities were purchased by Isaac Orr, trust officer of the St. Louis Union Trust Company, for the bondholders. H. N. Page is the local agent.

CHAPTER XX.

CHURCHES.

BAPTIST — BRETHREN — CATHOLIC — CHRISTIAN
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)—CHRISTIAN SCIENCE—
CHRISTIAN UNION—CONGREGATIONAL—EPISCOPAL
— JEWISH — LUTHERAN — METHODIST — PRES-
BYTERIAN — SWEDISH EVANGELICAL — SWEDISH
FREE CHURCH—UNITARIAN—UNITED EVANGELI-
CAL—UNIVERSALIST—SALVATION ARMY—VOLUN-
TEERS OF AMERICA—AMERICAN BIBLE STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION — SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST — SPIR-
ITUALISTIC SOCIETIES—SWEDENBORGIANS—MOR-
MONS—DOWIEITES—BEEKMANITES.

BAPTIST.

The oldest Baptist organization west of Chicago is the First Baptist church of Belvidere. In March, 1836, Rev. John S. King preached the first sermon in the Kishwaukee country, at the primitive home of Timothy Caswell. The First Baptist church was founded in July, 1836, and was the first religious organization in Belvidere. Its first pastor was Prof. Seth S. Whitman, who served ten years. Prof. Whitman was a native of Shaftsbury, Vt., was graduated from Madison University, and in 1827 was one of the three who formed the first graduating class from Newton Theological Institution. Immediately after his graduation, he was called to the chair of Biblical interpretation at Hamilton Theological Institution, which chair he occupied seven years, when he came to Belvidere. Prof. Whitman also performed duty as a civil officer in that early day. In 1841 he was clerk of the Circuit court under the appointment of Judge Dan. Stone, and postmaster of the village. Belvidere, in 1836, was included in this county; hence a reference to the church in that village has a place in this chapter.

The First Baptist church of Rockford was organized December 22, 1838, at the home of Dr. Haskell. It is thus the second Baptist church planted in northern Illinois, and the third religious organization in Rockford. Prof. Whitman was chosen moderator, and Dr. Haskell, clerk. A declaration of twelve articles of faith and a church covenant were adopted. Sixteen residents of Rockford presented church letters, as follows: James and Martha Jackson, from Indianapolis, Ind.; Abiram Morgan, from the First Baptist church, Springfield, Mass.; Pierce and Evelina Wood, from Conneaut, Ohio; John and Susan Emerson, Machias Point, Me.; William B. Brainard, Milwaukee, Wis.; Ransom and Lucy Knapp, George and Eunice P. Haskell, Mowry and Lucy Brown, Isaiah Lyon, and Caleb Blood, from Upper Alton, Ill. Just one-half of the constituent members of the church came from Upper Alton. This enrollment included several men of sturdy character and progressive ideas. Dr. Haskell has already been introduced to the reader. Isaiah Lyon honored every position to which he was called. He was a cousin of General Nathaniel Lyon, who was killed at the battle near Wilson's Creek in 1861. Abiram Morgan was one of the most prominent citizens of early Rockford, and maintained his membership with the church until his death, January 6, 1855. Ransom Knapp was a brother of Rev. Jacob Knapp, the revivalist. Caleb Blood had been a student at Shurtleff College, and became a Baptist clergyman.

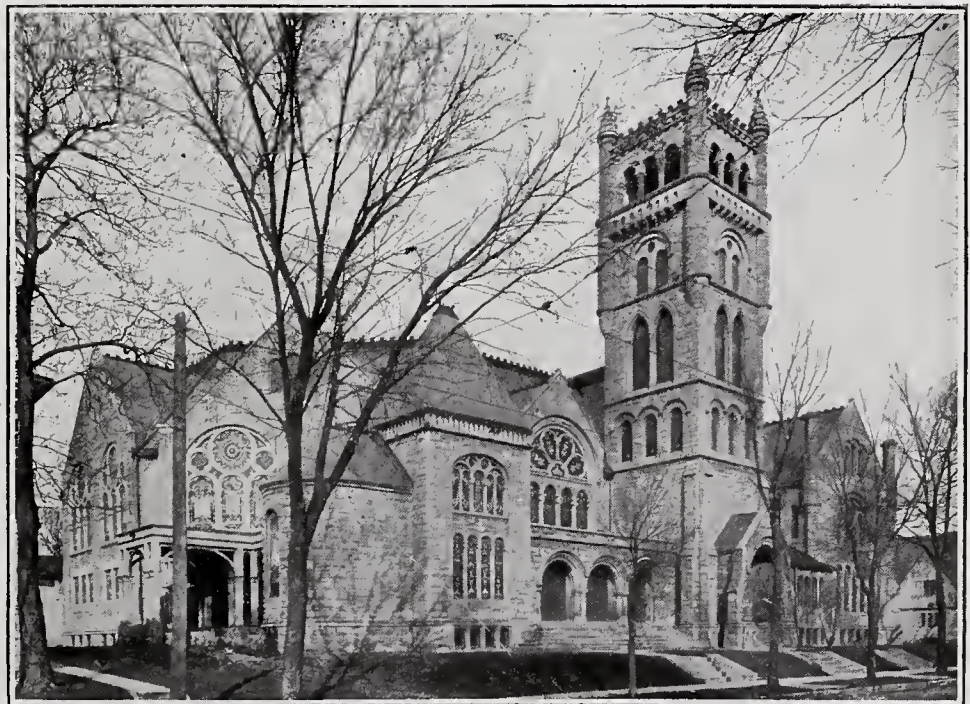
Until May, 1841, the church depended upon occasional supplies. Among these were Prof. Whitman, of Belvidere, and Rev. John Sears. Dr. Haskell was deacon and clerk, and withal a pillar of strength. He had built a brick block on the site of the Ashton dry goods store, with a hall on the second floor for public meetings, and here the church held its early services. In December, 1839, the church was legally incorporated, and plans for a house of worship were considered. In the following spring, lot 6 in block 11 was purchased. This is the northwest corner of Main and Peach streets, and is now owned by the American Insurance company.

The erection of the new house of worship proceeded as rapidly as possible. This sanctuary stood close to Main street, and faced the east. It was a balloon frame, about thirty by forty feet, clapboarded, with no cupola. There were three windows on either side, but none in front



OLD FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, ROCKFORD

Built in 1838 by Germanicus Kent and George W. Brinckerhoff,
southwest corner of Church and Green Streets



SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, ROCKFORD



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH,
ROCKFORD



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, ROCKFORD



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
ROCKFORD

or rear. The first sermon preached in this church was on May 9, 1841. It was not then completed, and temporary seats were used. Prof. Whitman was the preacher, and from that time until November 12 of the same year, he regularly supplied the pulpit. As a stated supply, Prof. Whitman may be considered in a restricted sense as the first pastor.

On September 23, 1840, the Rock River Baptist Association was organized at Belvidere. During 1839-40 churches had been organized at Round Prairie, Roscoe, Pecatonica, and Sugar River, the total membership of the six churches being 219. The minutes of this first association were published in full in eight small pages, and a copy is preserved in the Rockford public library, and is probably the only one in existence.

The Rock River Baptist Association held its second annual session with the Rockford church in September, 1841. The delegates at Belvidere the preceding year had been instructed to invite the association to meet in Rockford at this time, and the invitation had been accepted. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Luther W. Lawrence, of Bonus. The total membership of the churches in the association had increased to 260.

The first resident pastor of the Rockford church was the Rev. Solomon Knapp. He came from Des Plaines, Ill., November 12, 1841, served less than a year, and resigned September 19, 1842. From his departure until the autumn of 1843 the church was without a pastor. A call was then extended to Rev. Warren F. Parrish, of Massilon, Ohio. He was a convert from Mormonism to the Baptist faith. The church paid him a salary of \$300 and house-rent the first year; the second year he received \$400. Of this amount, the Home Missionary Society paid \$100. This is the only year, in the entire history of the church, when it received any assistance from this source. The First Baptist society of Rockford was organized January 6, 1845. About a month after the resignation of Rev. Parrish in 1845 the church invited Rev. O. H. Read, of Portageville, New York, to supply six months, from October 13, 1845. The terms were: "one hundred dollars in money, a cook stove, delf, and furniture with which to keep house; but he was to pay his own house rent." Rev. Read was unwilling to remain longer than the six months.

Rev. Luther Stone came from Rock Island

and served as pastor from June, 1846, to June, 1847, with a salary of four hundred dollars. In October, 1846, the church granted letters to eight members, to form a church at Harlem. Deacon R. T. Mabie was one of the number. After a struggle of two years the Harlem church disbanded, and Deacon Mabie reunited with the church November 18, 1848. From July 18, 1847, to October, 1848, the church was again favored with Prof. Whitman as a stated supply. His health failed, and he retired for three years from pastoral duties. He then took charge of a Baptist church at Madison, Wis., where he died after eight months of service, January 2, 1852. The Baptists of northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin owe a great debt to this cultured Christian gentleman. Dr. Frank S. Whitman, a prominent physician and politician of Belvidere, is a nephew.

In the autumn of 1848, Elder Jacob Knapp removed from the east, and November 18 he united with the First church by letter. The church was then without a pastor, and arrangements were soon made with Elder Knapp for holding revival meetings. The little frame building was too small, and the church secured the use of the courthouse, where it continued to hold services until the new stone structure was completed. Elder Knapp continued his labors until June, 1849. At the annual session of the Rock River Association, held that month, the church reported sixty-two additions by baptism and seventeen by letter. These accessions increased the membership to 160. Elder Knapp was one of the most remarkable men of his time. He was born in Otsego County, N. Y., December 7, 1799, was graduated at Hamilton Theological Seminary in June, 1825, and ordained in the following August. After serving the church at Springfield for five years, and the church at Watertown for three years, he began his career as an evangelist. For fifteen years his home was at Hamilton, N. Y., and for twenty-five years at Rockford. Elder Knapp claimed to have preached about 1,600 sermons, baptized 4,000 candidates, and was the means of making 100,000 converts by his revival ministry, of whom 200 became ministers of the gospel. Elder Knapp's mind was characterized by strong logical tendencies, and his sermons abounded in homely illustrations, apt quotations from the Bible, and a good knowledge of human nature

Elder Knapp's autobiography was published in 1868.

The immediate successor of Elder Knapp was Rev. Ichabod Clark, D. D. He came from Galena in July, 1849, and labored continuously for five years. Mrs. Clark died September 16, 1854. Dr. Clark desired a change of scene and labor, and November 5 of that year he left Rockford to engage for a time as superintendent of missions for the Illinois Baptist General Association. During his absence the pulpit was regularly supplied by Rev. Justin A. Smith, D. D., the veteran editor of the Standard, the Baptist publication in Chicago. In August, 1855, Dr. Clark resumed the active pastorate, which he retained until July, 1860. This was the longest pastorate in the history of the church. Revival services were frequently held from 1850 until Rev. Clark's resignation. In 1858 the church reached its high-water mark. After fifteen years of long and faithful service, Dr. and Mrs. Haskell adopted Spiritualism, and severed their connection with the church in 1853 and '54, respectively. On July 31, 1858, letters were granted to thirty-four members who wished to organize another church in East Rockford. The New Hampshire confession of faith was adopted by the First church January 2, 1859. When Dr. Clark closed his pastorate in 1860, the church had a membership of 267. When he came to Rockford there were 160 Baptists in the town; when he went away there were 357. Dr. Clark died at Lockport, Ill., in 1869, and was buried in the West side cemetery.

The stone edifice now occupied by the church was completed in 1850, and was then the finest church building in the village. The dedicatory sermon was preached June 20th, by Rev. Jirah D. Cole, before the Rock River Baptist Association, which was then in session with the church. The building cost \$6,000; the total cost of the lots, building and furniture was \$7,511.17. Among the prominent pew-holders were William Hulin, Charles I. Horsman, J. B. Howell, H. W. Loomis, Daniel Dow, Isaac Andrus and John Beattie. Not all the pew-holders were members of the church, and a few were not even included in the congregation. This church is the oldest house of worship in the city. Its solid walls have resisted the tooth of time and the fury of the elements for sixty-five years. When the old frame church was vacated, it entered upon a career of itineracy. It was sold to the Uni-

tarians, who removed it to their lot. Still later it was used by another church, and for secular business before it was torn down.

The First Baptist church purchased a bell from the foundry of Rincker & Company, of Chicago, in July, 1852. Its weight was fifteen hundred and forty pounds, and cost about six hundred dollars.

Dr. Clark was succeeded by Dr. Thomas Kerr, who began his pastorate June 1, 1860. To Dr. Kerr belongs the honor of preaching the first war sermon in Rockford, after the bombardment of Fort Sumter, and for the first time in local history the American flag was displayed from the pulpit, the true union of church and state. Dr. Kerr's first pastorate closed November 1, 1866, when he was called to Hannibal, Mo. After a brief pastorate by Rev. James Lick, Dr. Kerr was again called by the Rockford church, and he began his second pastorate July 11, 1869. His discourses were not considered evangelical, and he was charged with not preaching Baptist doctrine. He thereupon tendered his resignation August 28, 1870. In October the church called a council, which was held on the 14th, when Dr. Kerr was deposed from the Baptist ministry. The council also advised the church to exclude him from membership. Upon this advice Dr. Kerr and forty-eight members were dropped from the church roll. A more extended notice of Dr. Kerr will be given in the history of the church of the Christian Union, which he founded.

Dr. Kerr's successor in the pastorate was Rev. O. B. Stone. He began his labors January 1, 1871, at a salary of \$2,000. Dr. Stone resigned October 27, 1872, and went to Marengo. Rev. Austin Gibb was the next pastor. He served as a regular supply from November 1, 1872, to February 1, 1873, when he was called to the pastorate. He resigned at the end of one year. Rev. Catlin C. Smith was the next pastor. He supplied the pulpit as a licentiate from September 6, 1874, until May, 1875. He was then ordained to the ministry, and served as pastor until May, 1877. Mr. Smith was succeeded by Rev. John S. Mable. His pastorate began September 1, 1877, and continued four years. Rev. Elisha Anderson began his pastoral labors in January, 1882, and continued them until January, 1885. During his pastorate extensive changes were made in the interior of the church. Rev. William A. Stanton, Ph. D., assumed the pastorate in

October, 1885. In the summer of that year the church purchased its first parsonage. Dr. Stanton remained until 1890. Rev. C. H. Moscrip was the next pastor and served from 1890 to 1894. He was an able, scholarly preacher, and evangelistic in spirit. He was unduly conservative in his theological thinking, but a most companionable gentleman. During his pastorate the church debt was reduced from \$20,000 to \$12,000.

Rev. Theodore G. Soares, Ph. D., came to Rockford in the spring of 1894. He supplied for six months, when he was called to the pastorate and ordained. He has become prominent as a platform speaker, and now occupies the chair of homiletics at the University of Chicago. He is a man of fine scholarship. His popularity in Rockford has been attested by his repeated invitations to make public addresses, several of which have come from Rockford College. Dr. Soares remained here five years and then went to Galesburg. Rev. Charles W. Barber succeeded Dr. Soares. His pastorate extended from 1899 to 1903. He possessed fine pastoral ability and the church under his ministry made steady and commendable progress. Rev. W. C. Kierstead, Ph. D., was pastor from 1903 to 1906. He possessed strong individuality and was an able preacher. He made strong friendships and did fine work. During his pastorate a debt of twenty years' standing, amounting to \$16,000, was paid, and \$3,000 was spent in repairs. It was while Dr. Kierstead was in Rockford that Prof. George B. Foster's book, "The Finality of the Christian Religion," was published, and became a storm center in the theological world. Dr. Kierstead was an ardent defender of Prof. Foster. Rev. B. B. Bosworth succeeded Dr. Kierstead in 1907, and his ministry continued two years. He was anxious to secure a union of the First Baptist and Central Christian churches, and the failure of the plan led him to abandon this field. Mr. Bosworth was a preacher of ability. Rev. R. B. Davidson was the last pastor. He came to Rockford in 1911 from Detroit. Mr. Davidson was energetic in all his ministrations, and his pastorate was distinguished by many accessions to the church. In December, 1913, the church celebrated its diamond jubilee. Mr. Davidson resigned in 1914 and went to Marshalltown, Iowa. August 29, 1915, the church extended a call to Rev. G. A. Sheets, of Kankakee, Ill., and he began his pastorate November 7.

The First Baptist church has had during the seventy-seven years of its history twenty-four pastors, including stated supplies, and it is a notable fact that this chapter furnishes the only complete roll of pastors ever compiled. T. F. Hopkins, a trustee of the church since 1880, and clerk from 1882 to his death in 1914, bequeathed \$20,000 to the society, which will be utilized in providing a more modern house of worship. A. W. Woodward has been a deacon from 1884 to date.

The State Street Baptist Church was organized in 1858. During Rev. Ichabod Clark's pastorate of the First Baptist Church, letters were granted to thirty-four members who wished to organize a society on the east side of the river. This purpose had its origin in the prayer-meetings held by the Baptist women in that part of the city.

The organization of the church was formally completed in the vestry of Westminster Presbyterian Church, August 17, 1858, with the following constituent members: C. E. Buswell, A. S. Buswell, Eliza Barker, Charles Barker, Sophia C. Chamberlain, Brewster H. Chamberlain, Susan Cram (Mrs. P. Mesick), Armina Cram, Ruhanna Compton, Amanda Crane, Abby M. Dennis, James T. Dunn, Jane L. Dunn, Ann A. Dunn, Thompson Dunn, Stephen Gilbert, Sarah Gilbert, Maria Gilbert, Jacob Hazlett, Jane Hazlett, Catherine Hazlett, Margaret Hazlett (Mrs. J. P. Largent), James B. Howell, Cardina M. Hathaway, H. H. Guthrie, Ellen Miles, George Mills, Susan Mills, Chichester Mills, Elizabeth M. Mills, Erastus B. Perry, E. R. Riggs, Charlotte A. Riggs, Sarah A. Stearns. Mrs. Largent is the only survivor.

Rev. Edward C. Mitchell was called to the pastorate August 31. The terms were three hundred dollars in cash, an equal amount in board for himself and wife, and two hundred dollars additional if circumstances permitted. One of the first steps was the engagement of Prof. D. N. Hood to conduct the music. A little chapel was erected on the corner of Market, State and North Fifth streets, which is still standing, and used as a Jewish synagogue. This chapel was dedicated February 2, 1860. The organization was first called the Second Baptist Church of Rockford, but on the choice of a permanent location, the name was changed to

indicate its relationship to the city, to the State Street Baptist Church, October 26, 1858. The present house of worship was dedicated November 18, 1868.

Dr. Mitchell, the first pastor, died in New Orleans, in February, 1900. He held positions of influence in his denomination. He was professor of Biblical literature at Shurtleff College; held the chair of Hebrew and Old Testament interpretation in the Baptist Union Theological Seminary; professor of Hebrew in Regent's Park College, London; president of a Baptist theological school in Paris; acting president of Roger Williams University, at Nashville, Tenn.; president of Leland University, New Orleans.

Dr. Mitchell's successors in the pastorate have been: S. F. Holt, February, 1863-May, 1869; H. C. Mabie, October, 1869-June, 1873; E. K. Chandler, September, 1873-December, 1878; A. R. Medbury, March, 1879-June, 1880; C. R. Lathrop, February, 1881-April, 1883; J. T. Burhoe, September, 1883-February, 1892; R. F. Y. Pierce, October, 1892-June, 1896; L. B. Sears, October, 1896-August, 1898; J. T. Burhoe, November, 1898-March, 1905; R. R. Perkins, April, 1905-July, 1906; J. P. Abbott, February, 1907-November, 1912; Mahlon H. Day, April, 1913.

Mr. Burhoe died March 14, 1905. As an aggressive moral force he has never been surpassed in this city.

The Swedish Baptist Church was organized September 11, 1880, with ten members, in the State Street Baptist Church. Rev. L. J. Ahlstrom was the first pastor, and remained one year. He was succeeded by Rev. C. Silene, who remained from May, 1882, to May, 1884. The society meanwhile had purchased church property. The third pastor was Rev. J. P. Forsell, who served from May, 1885, to March, 1887. Rev. U. N. Brauer took up the work in July, and his ministry was so successful that a larger house of worship became necessary. A church was erected at the corner of Seventh street and Fourth avenue at a cost of \$8,000, and was dedicated January 13, 1889.

Mr. Brauer resigned in January, 1889, and was succeeded by Rev. P. Swartz, who remained until May, 1894. During his pastorate of five

years 246 members were added to the church. The next pastor was Rev. C. F. Levin, who served only a year and a half. Rev. Magnus Larson assumed the pastorate in January, 1897, and his ministry of six years was eminently successful. Rev. C. W. Sundmark succeeded in April, 1903, and his work made another house of worship necessary. A building was erected on the corner of Fourth avenue and Ninth street at a cost of \$28,000, and was dedicated in 1909. Mr. Sundmark left the church in February, 1910, and was succeeded by Rev. J. Alfred Erickson, who remained three and one-half years. His successor was Rev. Erick Carlson, who remained only eleven months. The present pastor is Rev. P. Alfred Peterson, who accepted the charge in July, 1915. The church has given five of her young men to the ministry, and for years has supported a missionary in India. The church has a membership of 360 and is free from debt.

BRETHREN.

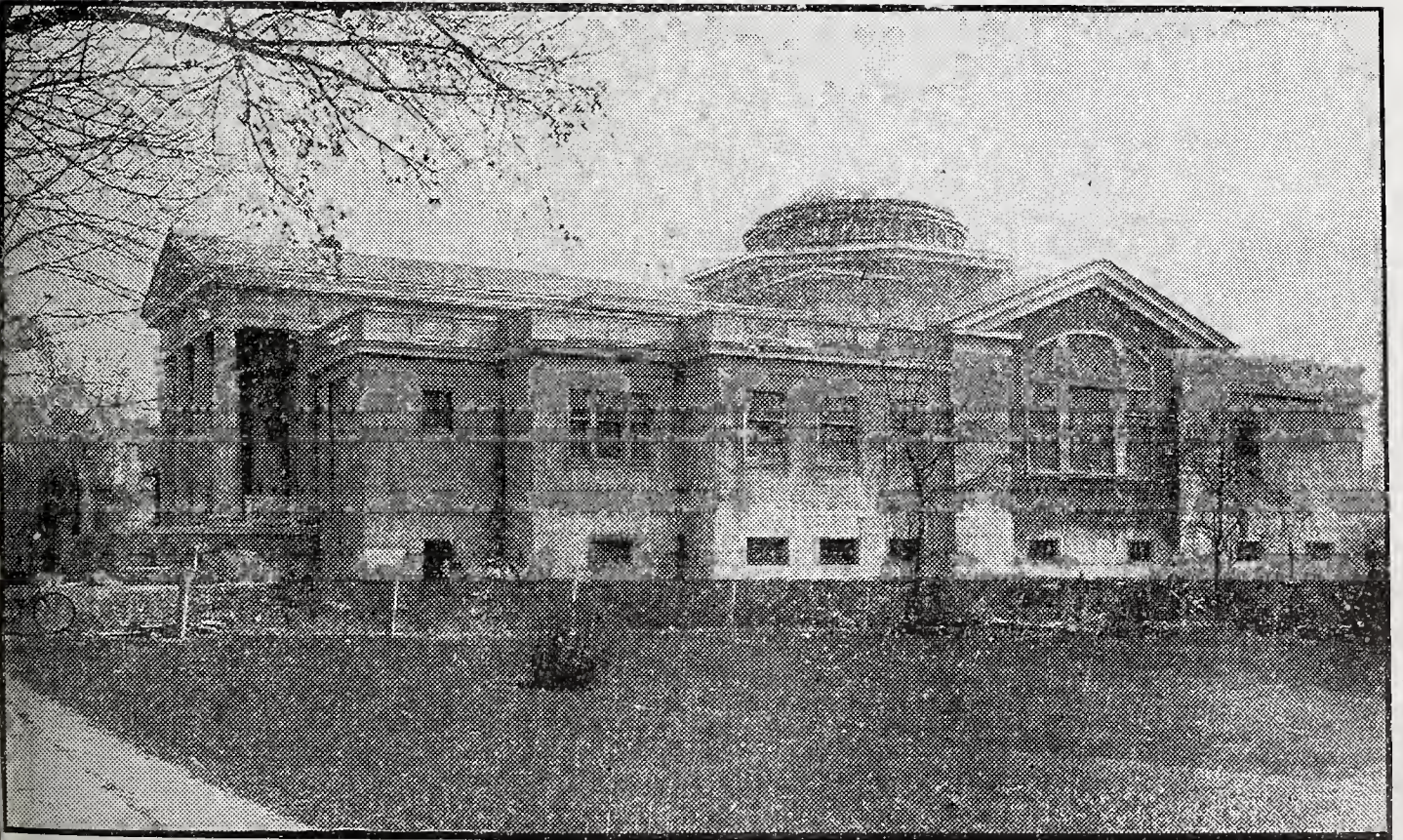
The Dunkard Brethren's mission began its work in this city under the care of the mission board of northern Illinois and Wisconsin. Miss C. Tempie Souble of Maryland was first placed in charge and remained until the services of Henry J. Neff and wife of Indiana were secured and took charge March 4, 1904.

CATHOLIC.

Information concerning the early history of St. James' Roman Catholic Church is very meager. The records are said to have been destroyed in the Chicago fire of 1871. Mass was celebrated in the homes of Catholic settlers of Rockford by priests located at New Dublin and Freeport, previous to 1850. Father Gueguen said mass and baptized children in 1840. The permanent organization dates from 1850. John McAnarney is said to be the oldest resident Catholic in the city. In 1851 Artemas Hitchcock and wife conveyed to Rt. Rev. James Oliver Van de Velde, second bishop of Chicago, for \$150, lot one in block twenty-six, as found in Duncan Ferguson's map of the village. A second conveyance was from John Lee and wife to Anthony O'Regan, third bishop of Chicago, of lot two in the same block, for \$400. Rev. John A. Hampton was appointed pastor of the parish Novem-



CENTENNIAL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ROCKFORD



CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH, ROCKFORD



CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH



ROCKFORD CHURCHES

B'nai Israel Congregation
Swedish Methodist

First Baptist
St. Paul's Lutheran Evangelical

Brethren
St. Mary's, Catholic

ber 9, 1851, by Bishop Van de Velde. He was the first resident pastor, and built the first church in 1852. It was a small one-story frame structure, with a seating capacity for 200 people. The citizens of the towns contributed a portion of the money with which the church was erected. Father Hampston died while in charge of the parish, and is buried under the present church. He was a man of studious habits, modest and retiring in manner, and highly respected by the citizens.

The present St. James' Church was begun in 1866, and dedicated the following year, under the pastorate of Rev. J. S. O'Neill, who was buried in Rockford, April 29, 1890. The pastors of St. James' Church have been as follows: Revs. John Hampston, George Hamilton, William Lambert, J. Bulger, John P. Donelan, J. S. O'Neill, Joseph McMahon, T. J. Butler, James J. Flaherty, Thomas Finn. Father Donelan died July 15, 1866, at the age of fifty-three years, and is buried under the church. He was born in New York City and came to Rockford in 1859. He was a gifted orator.

Dean Butler was a priest of more than local reputation. He was born in Limerick, Ireland. He completed his education in the College of the Propaganda, in Rome. He possessed unusual musical ability; and while in Rome was a member of the pope's choir. It is said Dean Butler was the papal ambassador at the baptism of the Prince Imperial, son of Napoleon III and Eugenie. During the Civil war, Dean Butler was chaplain of the Irish Brigade. He was a man of literary tastes, and for some years was a member of the Rockford public library board. The parochial residence was erected in 1878. Dean Butler died at Rome in July, 1897, when about to be consecrated Bishop of Concordia, Kansas.

Father Flaherty was priest twenty-two years, from 1885 to 1907. He founded the parochial school in 1886, and in 1891 completed the present brick structure. The school is in charge of the Dominican Sisters. Father Flaherty was succeeded by Father Finn, who came from Rochelle in July, 1907. When Bishop Muldoon made St. James' Church the pro-cathedral, Father Finn undertook the renovation of the church.

St. Mary's parish was established in May, 1885, and comprised all of Rockford west of Rock River and adjacent territory, which had formerly belonged to St. James' parish. The

corner-stone of the church was laid in the summer of 1885, with an imposing ceremony, in which a large number of priests from Chicago officiated. The first pastor was Rev. E. A. Murphy, who subsequently removed to Chicago, where he died in September, 1903. The second pastor was Rev. M. McLaughlin, who came in 1889. The present pastor is Rev. P. A. McMahon, who came in May, 1892. During his pastorate the present school was built and the convent purchased.

Rockford diocese was created September 23, 1908. It comprises the counties of Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Winnebago, Boone, McHenry, Carroll, Ogle, DeKalb, Kane, Whiteside, Lee and Kendall. The diocese has an area of 6,867 square miles, and a Catholic population of 56,000. This diocese was formerly a part of Chicago diocese. Outside of Rockford, in Winnebago County, there were three Catholic churches. These were located at Durand, Pecatonica and Seward, and were attended by priests who successively resided at Pecatonica, Durand and Davis. All of these churches, however, comprised one parish. They were first served by priests from Freeport and Galena, beginning in the early forties. After the creation of Rockford diocese these parishes were divided, the resident pastor of Pecatonica attending Seward, and the resident pastor of Durand attending Irish Grove, in Stephenson County.

The Right Reverend Bishop Peter James Muldoon was appointed the first bishop of Rockford, and took possession of his see December 15, 1908. Bishop Muldoon was born in Columbia, Cal., in 1863, and was ordained priest in 1886. He was consecrated auxiliary bishop of Chicago July 25, 1901. One of the first acts of Bishop Muldoon in Winnebago County was the erection of a parish, St. Peter's, at South Beloit, which comprises the towns of South Beloit, Roscoe and Rockton. The first mass was said in the South Beloit Church August 15, 1909.

St. Anthony's Church has been developed in the past seven years. The presence of a large number of Italians in Rockford made a separate parish necessary for their use, and at Easter, 1909, Rev. Father Marchesano began the work of organization. Ground was broken in September of the same year at the corner of Ferguson and Kent streets. At the present time an excellent church and school, a parochial resi-

dence and a convent for the school sisters are the property of the parish, which numbers considerably over 3,500, with 280 children in the school.

In July, 1911, Bishop Muldoon dedicated another church for a portion of the foreign population of Rockford, and the church of St. Peter and Paul (Lithuanian) was erected at the corner of Lincoln avenue and South West street. There is a parochial residence on the property also, which is occupied by the pastor, Rev. V. Taskunas.

St. Stanislaus Kostka Church was dedicated August 15, 1912. The Poles were the last of the foreign-born Catholics of Rockford to be provided with a church, and is under the pastorship of Rev. Julian Burzynski. A twelve-room parish house was purchased at the corner of Buckbee and Magnolia streets, near the church, and there the pastor makes his home.

Three portions of old St. James' parish were made into missions and attended from the pro-cathedral, with the result that in the summer of 1914 St. Rita's Church at Cherry Valley was begun, and in the fall of the same year the church of St. Peter, at Davis Junction, was dedicated. The latter mission is now attended from Genoa.

The latest acquisition to the Catholic churches of Rockford and of Winnebago County is the church of St. William, at the corner of Grant avenue and Auburn street, which was dedicated December 12, 1915. The Rev. J. J. Flanagan attends this church from the Pro-cathedral.

When Bishop Muldoon arrived in Rockford in 1908 there were but five Catholic churches in Winnebago County and two parochial schools. In the county now, outside of Rockford, there are six Catholic churches, and in Rockford itself there are six churches, three parochial schools, one Catholic high school, St. Thomas, and four convents. St. Elizabeth's social center on South Main street and the Knights of Columbus club house in North Main street are also institutions whose inspiration is traceable to Bishop Muldoon. Rev. J. J. Flanagan is private secretary to Bishop Muldoon.

CHRISTIAN (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST).

The Christian Church, also known as the Disciples of Christ, was organized by Elder William Hayden, March 18, 1856, with twenty-

five charter members. Services were held in the old courthouse. A frame edifice was completed in 1856. It stood on North First street, and served the people many years. The first elder, or pastor, was Isaac Shaver, who served one year. He was succeeded by L. J. Correll, who remained two years. Lorenzo D. Waldo, who came to Rockford in 1845, was for thirty-two years an elder of this church, and an honored and faithful minister of the gospel. Mr. Waldo died July 12, 1888. His successors were Revs. M. H. Wilson, W. B. Gallaher, H. D. Dennis and M. P. Hayden. During the pastorate of Mr. Dennis a brick building was erected and dedicated January 19, 1890. The church was allowed to discontinue through removals, and the property was sold to the Trinity Lutheran Church in 1898 for \$3,400.

A new organization of the Disciples of Christ was effected November 20, 1898, with twenty-three charter members, under the name of Central Christian Church. The first services were held in the Y. M. C. A. building, with L. E. Prather as evangelist and first preacher. Rev. D. R. Lucas served as pastor from April 7, 1899, to June 15, 1900. Headquarters were removed to W. C. T. U. rooms, and in September, 1900, Rev. O. F. Jordan became pastor. He remained seven years. In 1901 the old Unitarian church was purchased and dedicated April 14. Mr. Jordan was succeeded by Rev. W. D. Ward, who began his ministry July 1, 1907, and served two and one-half years. Efforts were made in 1908 to consolidate the First Baptist and Central Christian churches, but it was unsuccessful. The same year the old stone church was sold, and a chapel was finished on the corner of North Court and Peach streets.

Rev. William B. Clemmer, the present pastor, began his labors February 6, 1910, and under his leadership a modern and commodious structure has been erected. It was dedicated February 13, 1916, by Rev. John L. Brandt of St. Louis. The church owns property valued at \$38,000, and has a membership of 325.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

The first informal gathering for the study of Christian Science was held in a home in South Rockford in 1897. An authorized practitioner was sent to this field and services were held in a West State street home. A Christian

Science society was organized in February, 1899, and a hall in the Price Block on South Wyman street was secured for public worship. A Sunday-school was organized in March, 1899, and in January of the following year headquarters were removed to Knights of Pythias Hall on West State street. The first public lecture on Christian Science was given in July, 1900, and in the same month a free public reading room was opened. The society was incorporated as a church in 1902, and in the following year the church made another removal to Mendelssohn Hall. The growth of the organization warranted the erection of a church home. The lot, which was secured in 1908, is ideally located on North Main street. The corner-stone of the beautiful church was laid in February, 1910, and the first service was held April 3, 1910. The first readers in turn have been: Mrs. Lillian Weatherwax, E. J. Hollister, G. E. Willis, N. R. Carveth, J. C. Blake.

CHRISTIAN UNION.

The Church of the Christian Union had its origin in the expulsion of Dr. Thomas Kerr from the pastorate of the First Baptist Church. He had become a convert to a more liberal faith, and he and forty-eight sympathizers were obliged to seek other affiliations.

In September, 1870, a religious society was organized by the engagement of Dr. Kerr as preacher, and the election of temporary executive and finance committees. Public preaching services were immediately begun in Brown's Hall. On October 9, the executive committee presented a report which offered a plan of Christian fellowship. The church was formally organized October 26, 1870. The meeting was held in Haskell's Hall. Duncan Ferguson presided, and James S. Ticknor was secretary. The executive committee again presented its basis of church fellowship, which was read and unanimously adopted. The names received in reply to the public notice of October 9 were called, and 104 persons responded. These constituted the charter members of the church.

Dr. Thomas Kerr was called to the pastorate at a salary of \$2,000 a year. H. N. Starr was elected clerk of the church, and Duncan Ferguson, treasurer. The first board of trustees was composed of David G. Sears, William Peters,

Seymour Bronson, J. F. Lander and C. I. Horsman. Regular Sunday services were first held in Brown's Hall. Upon the completion of the new parsonage, public worship was conducted for a time in the circuit courtroom, and later in the opera house. After eighteen years of successful work the church decided to erect its own house of worship. The corner-stone was laid September 17, 1888. Addresses were made by Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, Dr. H. W. Thomas and Dr. Kerr. Mrs. John H. Sherratt read an original poem. Congratulatory letters were sent by distinguished representatives of liberal Christianity. After thirty-one years of faithful service Dr. Kerr tendered his resignation in the autumn of 1900. He continued as pastor emeritus until his death, January 3, 1904.

Dr. Kerr was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, May 24, 1824, and was educated at Gordon's College and the University of Aberdeen. He came to America in 1844, and in 1850 he received the degree of doctor of medicine at the University of Iowa. After seven years of practice at Elgin, Ill., Dr. Kerr was constrained to enter the ministry, and in June, 1857, he was ordained a Baptist clergyman. He began preaching in Dundee. In 1859 he was called to Waukegan, and June 1, 1860, he began his pastorate of the First Baptist Church in Rockford.

In the Church of the Christian Union Dr. Kerr founded the first independent church of its kind in the country, and preceded by five years a similar movement led by Prof. David Swing in Chicago. With a slight intermission he preached in Rockford nearly forty years. Dr. Kerr was physically the most commanding figure in Rockford; he was "every inch a king." When he left the Baptist faith he declared he burned all his bridges behind him and launched out into the deep. He threw overboard all creeds, but held to what he considered the essentials of religion. He was a great and kindly soul, and in his last years neighboring pastors would drop in on Sunday morning for his blessing. It was the writer's custom for years to make an occasional Sunday afternoon call on Dr. Kerr. The last visit was one of great solemnity. The venerable pastor was reviewing his life, which he knew was near its close. He arose to a point of great spiritual exaltation. Emotion overcame the power of

speech, and, like Moses on Nebo, he seemed to have a clearer vision of two worlds, and exclaimed, "I shall be satisfied when I awake in thy likeness!"

Dr. Kerr was succeeded by Rev. Robert C. Bryant, who began his pastorate in the autumn of 1901. Mr. Bryant came to Rockford from Lisbon, N. H. His divinity course was taken at Union Theological Seminary. Mr. Bryant resigned in 1906, and was succeeded by Thornton Anthony Mills, whose pastorate extended from 1907 to 1912. Mr. Mills is a son of B. Fay Mills, and inherits the intellectual vigor and dramatic power of his distinguished father. The present pastor is Rev. Charles Parker Connolly, who came to Rockford in May, 1913, from a Congregational church in Milwaukee. Mr. Connolly is a scholarly gentleman of noble ideals. It can be said of him that he makes his strongest appeal to those who know him best. The church has a membership of 750.

CONGREGATIONAL.

Congregationalism came with the early settlers from New England. This institution was firmly established within three years after the arrival of Mr. Kent and Mr. Blake, and it has maintained a strong and influential position in Rockford until the present time. The First Congregational church was organized May 5, 1837, with nine members: Rev. John Morrill, Herman B. Potter, Israel Morrill, Richard Morrill, Elizabeth P. Morrill, Mary J. Morrill, Sophia N. Morrill, Minerva Potter, and Eunice Brown. The church was founded by Rev. John Morrill, at the home of his brother, Israel Morrill, on the west side of the river. It is therefore the oldest church in Rockford, inasmuch as the First Methodist church, formed the previous year, ceased to exist. The three Morrill brothers and their wives constituted just two-thirds of the original membership. Two weeks later, there were five accessions: Edward Cating, Charles Works, Asa Crosby, Mary Crosby, and Mary Danforth. Miss Danforth was a sister of Mrs. Israel Morrill. Their sister Sarah was the wife of D. A. Spaulding, the surveyor. During the year the following were also received into membership: Mary Works, wife of Charles Works, Deborah Barnum, wife of Ezra Barnum, Eleazer H. Potter, Adeline Potter, Samnel D. Preston, and Mary Preston. During its first year the

church had attained a membership of twenty souls. Israel Morrill and H. B. Potter were the first deacons.

The first confession of faith and form of covenant, adopted temporarily at its organization, was that recommended by the Watertown presbytery. One year later, May 4, 1838, this was displaced by the articles of faith and covenant of the Rock River Congregational Association. At the first meeting it was unanimously voted that "all persons, before uniting with the church, should sign a pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks as a beverage." Under date of August 11, 1837, there is found the following entry: "The resolution touching the slavery question being agitated, it was resolved that for the present the subject be postponed, to receive the attention and action of the church at some future time." No other record upon this subject, however, has been found.

Rev. John Morrill was the first pastor and served one year from May, 1837. He had come in a farm wagon from New York as a home missionary to this county, where his brother had previously settled. Mr. Morrill officiated at the organization of the Presbyterian church in Belvidere, March 17, 1839, and was its stated supply until March of the following year. Mrs. Eunice Brown Lyon is authority for the statement that Mr. Morrill received no formal call to the pastorate of the Congregational church, but he was the leading spirit in its organization, and he may have assumed the work with the understanding, explicit or implied, that he should serve as its pastor for a time. Mr. Morrill was a devout man, who labored for the spiritual growth of the people. He placed emphasis upon pecuniary reward only so far as it was necessary for his support. This pioneer minister died at Pecatonica, February 16, 1874.

Soon after its organization the church held services in the "stage barn," built by Daniel S. Haight, near the intersection of State and Third streets. In the summer of 1838 the trustees began the erection of a frame structure on the west side of North First street, on a site near the residence of Philip Atwood. The unfinished building was abandoned before completion, and was never afterward used by this church as a house of worship. It was, however, devoted to other purposes. In the meanwhile Messrs. Kent and Brinkerhoff had obtained about \$800 from



EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
ROCKFORD



ST. JAMES' PRO-CATHEDRAL, ROCKFORD



ROCKFORD COLLEGE

friends in New York, for a church. Instead of turning over this money to the society to complete the church, these gentlemen built an edifice on their own side of the river. This building was raised in the summer of 1838, and enclosed the same season. When it was completed they turned it over to the society for worship, but retained their nominal title. At that time they possessed no legal title to the land from the government.

The building erected by Kent and Brinckerhoff was the first church edifice in Rockford. It stood on the southwest corner of Church and Green streets. It was a frame structure, clap-boarded, in Doric style, 45 feet square inside, and stood on a foundation of blocks of trees cut in the adjoining grove, with sills resting upon them about 3 feet above the ground. In fact, the greater portion of the building material was obtained from adjacent lots. The building fronted to the east, and had three windows on each side. A porch about 10 feet wide extended across the front, covered by an extension of the roof, which was supported by four fluted wooden columns. This sylvan sanctuary was occupied by the First church about six years.

The Ladies' Foreign Missionary Society was organized in 1838, just one year after the founding of the church. The originators of this movement, like the founders of the church, were largely from New England, who had been interested in foreign missions and education in their eastern homes, and who had not left their zeal behind them, although they might properly have considered themselves on home missionary ground. As near as can be ascertained, a Sunday school was organized in the spring of 1839.

The second pastor was Rev. Cyrus L. Watson, who served the church from November, 1838, to May, 1841. He was a genial, social, elderly gentleman, a good pastor, and was highly esteemed. His death occurred at Battle Creek, Mich. Rev. William S. Curtis, D. D., supplied the pulpit from November, 1841, to August, 1842. Dr. Curtis subsequently became pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian church. His death occurred in 1885, and his funeral was held June 1st, from the Westminster church. Dr. Curtis' son, Edward L. Curtis, was a professor in the Yale divinity school. Prof. Curtis married a sister of Rev. B. E. S. Ely, formerly pastor of the First Presbyterian church. The senior Curtis was succeeded by Rev. Oliver W. Norton,

who was pastor from September, 1842, until some time in the following year. Rev. Lansing Porter served a brief pastorate from February, 1844, to April, 1846.

In the spring of 1846 the church dedicated a new house of worship on the East side. It was a brick structure, and stood on the northeast corner of South First and Walnut streets, on the site of the city hall. Its dimensions were 40 by 60 feet. The walls were 20 feet high. A projection at the rear formed a recess for the pulpit. The roof was one-quarter pitch, with a square tower on the center of the front, rising about 20 feet. From this tower a bell called the people to their public devotions. The bell belonged to Rev. Oliver W. Norton, and he took it with him when he went away. W. A. Dickerman, as agent for the church, subsequently purchased a Meneely bell in New York, weighing 640 pounds. When it was brought to town by team it was first delivered in a warehouse. So anxious were the people to hear a bell in Rockford, that a platform was extemporized, so that it rang out loud and clear, and attracted all the parishioners, before it was taken to the church. No picture of this church is known to have been preserved. The exterior was finished somewhat in the Tuscan style of architecture, and it presented a very attractive appearance. A vestibule extended across the interior front, with a choir gallery overhead. In this vestibule were held the prayer-meetings of the church. Two aisles extended from the vestibule to the pulpit at the rear of the church. The pews were shut in by doors in the old-fashioned way. This building had a seating capacity of about three hundred and fifty, and cost not far from \$8,000. Galleries were subsequently built, with a seating capacity of one hundred and fifty. This church continued to be the house of worship for this congregation until 1870. The construction of a new house of worship is frequently, and perhaps generally, followed by a change in the pastorate. Such was the experience of this society soon after the dedication of its new church. The resignation of Rev. Lansing Porter was followed by a call to the Rev. Lewis H. Loss, whose pastorate began in August, 1846. The pipe organ used in the church was built by H. H. Silsby and his brother. The organist at one time was Rufus Hatch, who subsequently removed to New York, and became one of the most famous operators of Wall street. During his residence

in Rockford he was engaged in the dry goods business, on East State street, near the site of Coyner Bros.' drug store. His home was on South Madison street, where Miss Kate O'Connor's former residence now stands. Mr. Hatch removed from Rockford about 1856. His house was purchased by Dr. Hale, who lived in it until he built another on the corner which is now occupied by the Boys' club.

Dr. Loss was succeeded by Rev. Henry M. Goodwin, D. D., who perhaps gave to the church its most distinctive pastorate. It extended from August, 1850, to January, 1872. This period of more than twenty-one years constitutes nearly one-quarter of its history. The interim between the departure of Dr. Loss and Dr. Goodwin's acceptance of a call was supplied by Prof. Joseph Emerson, of Beloit College. Dr. Goodwin was a native of Hartford, Conn. He was graduated from Yale, and the Rockford church was his first parish.

The present house of worship was built during Dr. Goodwin's pastorate. It was erected and furnished at an expense of about \$60,000. The structure is of pure Gothic architecture, the only one in the city, and has a seating capacity of 900. It was dedicated December 14, 1870. One of the dedicatory hymns was written by Dr. Goodwin. In literary style and spiritual fervor it is entitled to rank with the noble hymns of the church militant. Rufus Hatch, who was mentioned in a preceding paragraph, presented the pipe organ now in use to Dr. and Mrs. Goodwin. The cost of the instrument was \$4,500. It was dedicated by Dudley Buck, one of the greatest American composers of choir music. Some time later Dr. Goodwin preached a sermon on Music in which he referred to its high place in Christian worship. At the close of this discourse Dr. Goodwin said that he and Mrs. Goodwin relinquished all claim to the organ. "It is henceforth neither mine nor yours, but the Lord's, to whom I now dedicate it." In September, 1883, Mr. Hatch spent a Sunday in Rockford, and played the organ at the morning service.

Dr. Goodwin was a progressive thinker, and in certain lines he was far in advance of his time. He was an ardent disciple of Horace Bushnell. Dr. Goodwin reverently and earnestly preached the moral influence theory of the divine sacrifice during his entire pastorate, and since his day it has been taught by many

progressive thinkers in the Congregational church, and during the last ten years it has gained rapidly in other evangelical bodies. Dr. Goodwin testified to his regard for his illustrious teacher by naming his son Horace Bushnell Goodwin. Dr. Goodwin's pleasant home while in Rockford was on Kishwaukee street. His lots extended from the corner on First avenue to Mrs. Thomas G. Lawler's home. The house, which stood near what is now 206 Kishwaukee street, now stands in the rear of the Carpenter Block, and fronts on First avenue. Soon after leaving Rockford, Dr. Goodwin wrote a book entitled "Christ and Humanity," which was published by the Harpers. It was dedicated to his friend in these noble words: "To Horace Bushnell, my revered friend and teacher, whose profound and sanctified genius has made the world his debtor, and whose eminent services to Christianity in the reconciliation of faith and reason await the verdict of the future ages, these later studies of Christian doctrine are filially and affectionately inscribed by the author." This work was written while the author was enjoying an extended sojourn in Germany. In 1875 Dr. Goodwin was called to the chair of English literature by the college at Olivet, Mich., which he filled for several years. His death occurred at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Weld, in Williamstown, Mass., March 1, 1893. Dr. Goodwin was seventy-one years of age. His remains were brought to Rockford for burial.

Dr. Goodwin was succeeded by Rev. Wilder Smith, whose pastorate extended from May, 1872, to October 1, 1883. In 1873 George Willis Smith, then of Guilford Township, presented to the church the bell which now calls its members to public worship. Its weight is three thousand pounds, and cost \$2,000. Mr. Smith died at his later home in Rockford July 22, 1887. In 1882 John Spafford deeded to the society the triangular park in front of the church, costing \$1,500.

Rev. Theodore Clifton succeeded Dr. Smith. His pastorate extended from July 6, 1884, to January 1, 1888. In May, 1887, the church celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its founding. Historic addresses were given by the pastor and Dr. Goodwin. Rev. William W. Leete, the tenth pastor of the church, began his labors September 16, 1888. He was an efficient organizer, and his pastorate was eminently successful. Early in 1889 Mrs. John G. Penfield presented a lot

to the society, valued at \$3,000. The same year the church erected a commodious parsonage, at an expense of \$5,000. Mr. Leete remained more than ten years, and conducted his last service March 5, 1899. Rev. Frederick H. Bodman was called to the pastorate June 14, 1899, and resigned December 28, 1904. Mr. Bodman was a liberal thinker, and occasionally surprised his conservative congregation by his radical utterances. Rev. Frank M. Sheldon was called to the pastorate September 6, 1905. He presented a virile message, and his personality was a helpful force in the community. Mr. Sheldon resigned September 6, 1908. Rev. Thomas Barney Thompson was called to the pastorate December 23, 1908. One of the features of Mr. Thompson's pastorate was the diamond jubilee of the church. The celebration began Sunday, May 5, 1912, the seventy-fifth anniversary of its organization, and continued five days. The pastor conducted a sacramental service in the morning, and preached a sermon on "Creating a Tradition." Rev. W. T. McElveen, of Evans-ton, delivered a discourse Sunday evening on "The Gospel and Other Gospels." Wednesday evening was devoted to reminiscences. Greetings were read from former pastors and members, and Mrs. J. L. Clark read a historical address written by Mrs. E. P. Catlin. An incident of the evening was the burning of a note for \$2,000. The jubilee closed Thursday evening with an address by Rev. Frank G. Smith, of Chicago, on "Problems and Progress of a Great Country." Mr. Thompson is a vigorous and progressive thinker, and is master of a splendid literary style. He resigned January 15, 1914.

The next pastor was Rev. A. R. Fiske, who had left the Universalist church because he believed his earlier faith was lacking in that spiritual dynamic necessary for a real evangelism. Mr. Fiske was called February 18, 1914, and tendered his resignation September 8, 1915. November 10, 1915, the church extended a call to Rev. Earl J. Sellard, of Peoria, who began his pastorate November 14.

The complete records of the church, covering a period of seventy-eight years, have been preserved, and are in possession of the clerk, Samuel Herrick. They are an invaluable source of information to the local historian. The membership of the church January 1, 1915, was 348.

The Second Congregational church was organized in the autumn of 1849, with forty-seven members. Nearly all had taken letters from the First church. A vacant church building and a growing population on the West side seemed to justify a separation, and time has fully vindicated its wisdom. During its entire history Rockford has been a stronghold of Congregationalism. The first meeting preliminary to organization was held October 30, 1849, at the schoolhouse on South Main street. Rev. Lansing Porter was called to the chair, and Worcester A. Dickerman was appointed clerk. A committee of three was chosen to present at a future meeting, articles of faith, covenant and rules of government for the proposed church. Benjamin A. Rose, Dexter G. Clark and Thomas D. Robertson constituted this committee. It was resolved that the public organization of the church should take place November 14th; and Samuel J. Russell, Worcester A. Dickerman and Robert Clow were chosen to make the necessary arrangements.

At an adjourned meeting a resolution was adopted, by which the following named persons, who were then present, organized the church: Robert Clow, Burton P. Franklin, Rachel Franklin, David D. Alling, Rebecca Alling, Alexander Patterson, Helen Patterson, Ellen Patterson, Jane Gordon, Thomas D. Robertson, Goodyear A. Sanford, Elizabeth H. Sanford, Worcester A. Dickerman, Caroline M. Dickerman, Michael Burns, Deborah Burns, Samuel J. Russell, Lucy Russell, Dexter G. Clark, Benjamin A. Rose, Antoinette W. Rose, Eliza Hanford, Rebecca Spurr, Harriette W. Platt, Rial K. Town, Clarissa Town, Mary Bond, Emily G. Sanford, Susan G. Fuller, Elizabeth B. Field, Mary A. Frink, Lemira L. Meyers, Lucy C. Hyde, Sarah D. Hyde, Esther Ann Hyde, Henry C. Hyde, Gershom C. Hyde, Alonzo Gorham, Hannah L. Gorham, Mercy A. Gorham, Ann Levings, Mrs. Elizabeth C. Porter, Anor Woodruff, Mrs. Eliza Woodruff, James Porter, Ebenezer Hyde, Mrs. Barbara Porter. Thomas D. Robertson, from the committee appointed at the former meeting, presented a report on articles of faith, covenant, and rules of government, which report was accepted and adopted. The articles of faith were thoroughly orthodox, according to the standard of the time. The orthodoxy of today is somewhat elastic; but half a century ago the term stood for a clearly defined and rigid system

of Christian doctrine. The public organization of this church occurred Wednesday, November 14, 1849. Previous to these formal exercises Mrs. Sarah J. Clark, Mrs. E. W. Spaulding and Mrs. Jane C. Houghton, who had been included in the original letter of dismissal from the First church, but were not present at the first meeting, were received; also Mrs. Mary Haskell and Miss Eliza Holmes.

The Congregational council was composed of the following gentlemen: Rev. Hutchins Taylor, moderator; Rev. Dexter Clary, Beloit; Rev. Lewis Benedict, Rockton; Rev. R. M. Pearson, Grand DeTour; Rev. Lansing Porter, Rockford; Horace Hobart, delegate from Beloit.

The first pastor of the new church was Rev. Lansing Porter, who had served the First church as its pastor a little more than two years, and served the Second church four years.

In 1851 the church edifice, a remodeled building on the corner of Church and Green streets, was found to be too small, and its capacity was increased by the addition of 40 feet to its length. Thus improved, it continued to serve its purpose for seven years. During Mr. Porter's pastorate the church was blessed with temporal and spiritual prosperity. A high standard of Christian living was maintained, and the obstinate backslider was promptly "excommunicated."

In December, 1853, Rev. Joseph Emerson was called. Rev. Emerson was a son of Rev. Daniel Emerson; a cousin of Ralph Emerson, of Rockford, and a second cousin of the famous Ralph Waldo Emerson. Joseph Emerson was born in Dartmouth, Mass., in 1806, and died at Andover, Mass., in 1885. Mr. Emerson was graduated from Yale College in 1830, and from Andover Theological Seminary in 1835. He built the house on North Church street, where the late Ralph Emerson resided. Some of his friends thought he was building his home too far from the village—away up in Dr. Haskell's orchard. The pastorate of Rev. Emerson was signalized by the erection of the second house of worship on South Church street. July 19, 1855, the society voted that it was expedient to take action toward building a new church. After due consideration a new house of worship was erected, on the corner of South Church and Chestnut streets. The lot was purchased from L. H. Rood for \$3,000. Work was begun on the building May 17, 1857, and was completed in the autumn

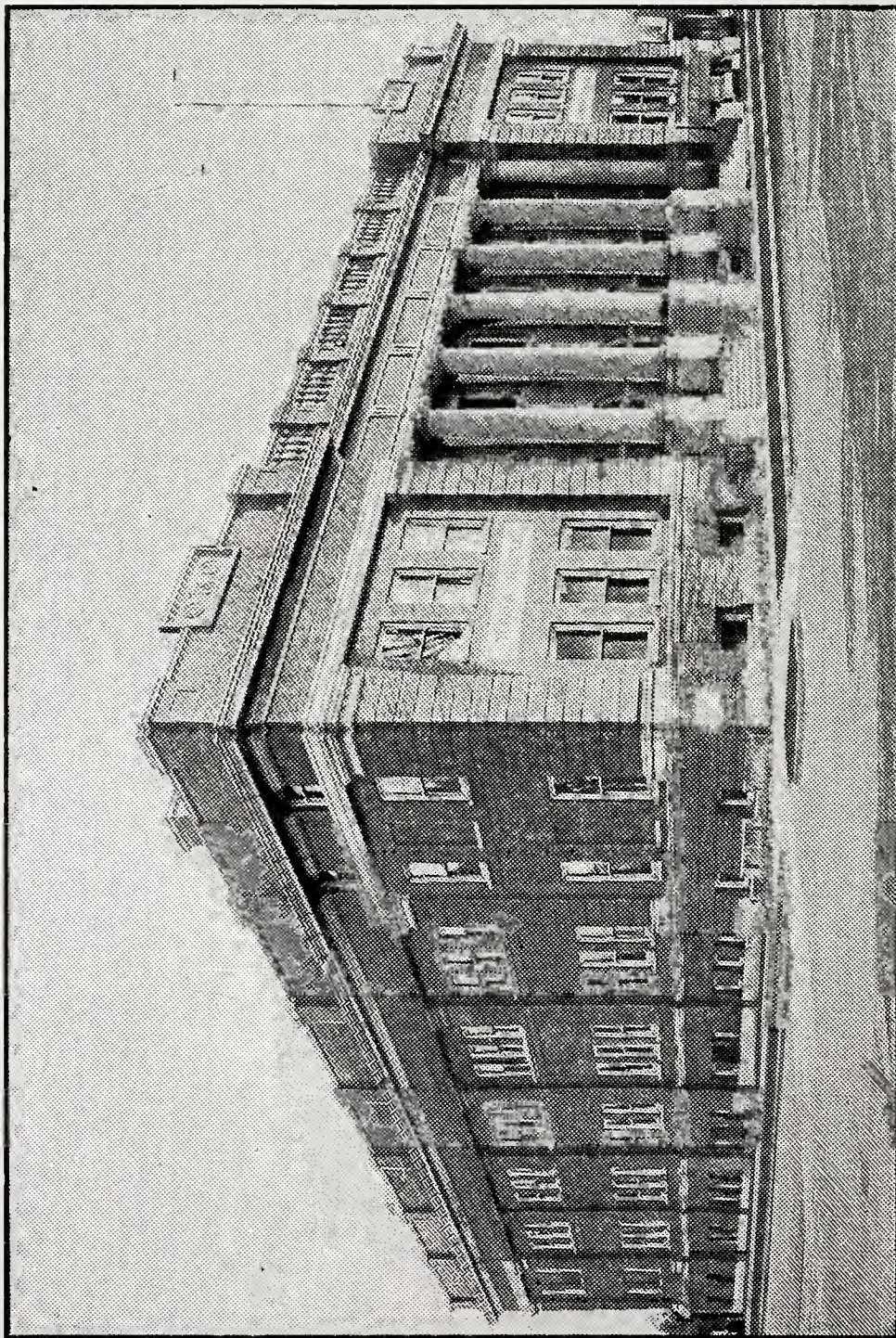
of 1858, the building contract calling for the expenditure of \$23,478.78. Farewell services were held in the old church on Sunday, November 28th. After this little sanctuary had outlived its usefulness in a growing city, it was donated to the people in Owen Township, where it was again used as a house of worship. The new church was dedicated Thursday, December 2, 1858.

On July 30, 1859, Mr. Emerson tendered his resignation, and a call was extended to Rev. Jeremiah E. Walton, whose pastorate continued until December, 1863. Mr. Walton graduated from Williams College, in 1853, and from Hartford Seminary, in 1856. He came to Rockford from Troy, New York, when a young man, full of hope and enthusiasm. Mr. Walton entertained religious views similar to those held by the late Horace Bushnell, and especially those concerning Christian nurture. After his removal from Rockford Rev. Walton took orders as a priest in the Episcopal church. He subsequently returned to Rockford, and became the rector of Emmanuel Church. The pipe organ was constructed in 1863, at a cost of about \$2,500. The instrument was formally dedicated February 25, 1864. Two participants are still living, L. B. Starkweather, of this city, and Prof. D. N. Hood. The organ is now in use in Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Rev. M. P. Kinney was called to the pastorate August 10, 1864, and by the munificence of Mrs. Ralph Emerson, a house was built on Park street, and the use of it freely given to Mr. Kinney as a parsonage. It has for many years been the home of Daniel Goodlander. Mr. Kinney resigned June 26, 1870. He died like a soldier of the cross, with his armor on, in the pulpit of the Congregational church in Kenosha, Wis. The accessions to the church in 1850 were twenty-nine; 1851, thirty-five; 1852, fifteen; 1853, sixteen; 1854, twenty-four; 1855, fifteen; 1856, twenty-seven; 1857, twenty-nine.

Mr. Kinney was succeeded by Rev. Frank P. Woodbury, D. D., December 6, 1870, and his pastorate was the longest in the history of the church. Dr. Woodbury was born in Beverly, Mass., and was graduated from Williams College in 1861. He spent two years at Union Theological seminary and two years at Andover Theological seminary. Dr. Woodbury was what may be called, an "all-around man." He was an able preacher, possessed a high order of executive ability, and withal a public-spirited citizen. He



COURT STREET METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ROCKFORD



SHRINERS' MOSQUE AND MASONIC TEMPLE, ROCKFORD

frequently discussed questions of the day from the pulpit, and kept in touch with the great thinkers of his time. Two events of Dr. Woodbury's pastorate possess more than passing historic interest. One of these is the first observance of Children's day, which has now become general throughout the United States. Dr. Woodbury introduced this beautiful custom in the spring of 1871, to emphasize Christian nurture as exemplified in the baptismal service. The words of that heroic Christian hymn, "Hold the Fort," were composed by P. P. Bliss, upon the rostrum of the old stone church, inspired by Major Whittle's graphic description of the incident in the Civil war in which General Sherman signaled "Hold the Fort." Dr. Woodbury resigned April 1, 1888, to accept the pastorate of the Park Avenue Congregational Church at Minneapolis. He is now connected with the Howard School of Theology at Washington, D. C.

On June 20, 1888, a call was extended to Rev. Walter Manning Barrows, D. D., who was then secretary of the American Home Missionary society in New York. The call was accepted July 19, but owing to the unwillingness of the society to release him sooner, he did not begin his work in Rockford until October 1. His home was the present parsonage on North Main street, which had been purchased the previous summer for \$9,000. Dr. Barrows was born in Franklin, Mich., April 12, 1846. He was a son of Rev. John Manning Barrows, who was for a time an instructor in the Troy Polytechnic Institute, and later at Olivet College. Dr. Barrows was graduated from Olivet, and one of the teachers who influenced him deeply was F. P. Woodbury, whom by a singular fortune, he was to succeed as pastor of this church. Dr. Barrows introduced vespers in place of evening worship, and sought to make the afternoon service attractive by elaborate musical programs. These included the oratorios of "The Messiah," "Creation," and other great compositions. The fortieth anniversary of the church occurred November 7, 1889, when Dr. Barrows preached a sermon that is historic, in that he urged the necessity of erecting a modern house of worship in a more favorable part of the city. It was proposed to build a church that should cost not less than \$80,000. Ralph Emerson headed the subscription list with \$10,000, the site was purchased for \$17,500, and the entire cost of the church was \$114,000.

John Barnes was chairman of the building committee. The corner-stone was laid by Ralph Emerson April 28, 1891; and the church was dedicated May 8, 1892, with the dedicatory sermon by Rev. W. W. Leete, pastor of the First church. Among the noted speakers who were heard in the old church were A. Bronson Alcott, Dr. Lyman Abbott and Julia Ward Howe. On February 20, 1894, the new church was destroyed by fire. Dr. Barrows was a tower of strength in any emergency, and that very afternoon he gathered about him a company of Strong-Hearts at the home of John Barnes, when it was resolved to rebuild. William Dobson was chairman of the building committee. The church was re-dedicated December 2, 1894. At the head of the banquet table sat Dr. Barrows. At his right was the venerable Dr. Kerr, and at his left a Roman Catholic priest; while down the line was the captain of the Salvation Army, with the city pastors. This incident illustrates the all-embracing sympathy which has ever characterized the Second church. In building two beautiful temples within four years Dr. Barrows showed a constructive talent akin to genius. In April, 1898, Dr. Barrows resigned to accept a call to Greenwich, Conn. He died August 10, 1899, at the summer home of his brother at Mackinac Island.

Dr. Barrows was succeeded by Rev. Wesley C. Haskell. He began his labors February 20, 1899, and remained one year. The notable incident of Mr. Haskell's pastorate was the semi-centennial of the church, which continued three days, November 5 to 7, 1899. Sunday evening Rev. John Henry Barrows, president of the world's parliament of religions, preached a memorial sermon for his brother, Dr. W. M. Barrows. A valuable history of the church was compiled at this time. During the half century, 1,681 members were received into the church.

Rev. Peter M. Snyder, D. D., of Burlington, Vermont, was called to the pastorate March 28, 1900, and his pastorate continued until 1912.

Twelve years constitute a long pastorate in these days. During that time many changes occur in a community and church, and even in the field of religious thought. In this changing order no minister in the country met its problems more bravely, and with a more triumphant faith in his message, than did Dr. Snyder. He was eminently fair to all phases of religious thought. He met issues squarely and

in a spirit of broad Christian charity, and his message brought assurance to those who feel their need of it. Dr. Snyder preached a gospel that can be translated into life and conduct, and he set a noble example of the possibilities of such a life. Dr. Snyder resigned July 7, 1912, and preached his farewell sermon July 28. He is now pastor of a church in East Hartford, Conn.

In the autumn the church extended a call to Rev. John Gordon, of Ravenswood, Ill. Mr. Gordon is a son of Rev. Robert Gordon, and was born February 5, 1876. He was graduated from Butler College and Chicago Theological Seminary. Mr. Gordon was pastor at Grand Rapids, Mich., five years, and at Ravenswood, Ill., four years, and preached his first sermon as pastor in Rockford, November 10, 1912. He presents a virile message from the pulpit, in which he uses neither manuscript nor notes. He is also a faithful pastor, thus having a combination of qualities that are rare. During Mr. Gordon's pastorate the church has enjoyed a prosperity without precedent. The parsonage has been improved at an expenditure of about \$7,000, and is now perhaps the most valuable parsonage property in northern Illinois. The membership of the church October 18, 1915, was 884. Only one charter member is now living, Mrs. Hannah L. Gorham Weldon, of Santa Barbara, Cal. She is eighty-eight years of age. The last resident survivor was Mrs. Caroline M. Dickerman, who died June 2, 1914.

Four of the nine pastors of the church were sons of clergymen—a real apostolic succession. Three pastors were graduates of Williams College. Three pastorates covered a period of forty years. Members of the church tendered long-continued services. Benjamin Blakeman served as deacon fifty years; G. A. Sanford was a trustee thirty years; Thomas D. Robertson was treasurer thirty-six years; Mrs. Chandler Starr was organist twenty-seven years, and W. B. Taylor, the incumbent, has been clerk twenty-six years.

EPISCOPAL.

The Rt. Rev. Philander Chase, D. D., first bishop of the diocese of Illinois, made his first episcopal visitation to Rockford, August 28, 1841. Prior to this time there had been no public services of the Episcopal church held in the

county. There had been only a very few families of the faith who had settled in Rockford. Levi Moulthrop, M. D., was the first churchman who came into this county. Dr. Moulthrop arrived in the autumn of 1835. He brought the first American Prayer Book, which was a highly prized heirloom owned by his son, the late Levi Moulthrop, the dry goods merchant.

The first church family to settle in the county was that of Sampson George, who came from Yorkshire, England. They arrived in the settlement of Rockford September 24, 1836. Mr. George was accompanied by his wife Ann, and five children, two daughters and three sons. The children had received baptism in England. Mr. George brought a letter from their parish priest, commending the family to the spiritual care of any clergyman of the American church into whose jurisdiction they might come. They also brought two English Prayer Books. The death of Mr. George occurred five weeks after the arrival of the family in Rockford. There was no priest nearer than the missionary at Galena, and he could not be definitely located, owing to the extent of territory under his charge. Thus the first churchman was buried without the offices of the church. During the next few years several other families of this faith settled in the county. Among these were Jonathan Weldon, Chauncy Ray, and John W. Taylor. The former two settled on farms about six miles southwest of the town, and the latter remained in the village, and engaged in the dry goods business.

At Bishop Chase's first visitation the services were held in the old courthouse on North First street, when the holy eucharist was celebrated for the first time in the county, and holy baptism administered. The bishop preached and John Wadleigh Taylor, infant son of John W. and Jane P. Taylor, was baptized. On August 4, 1842, the bishop made a second visitation to Rockford. The services morning and afternoon were held in the same building as in the preceding year. The sacraments of the holy eucharist, baptism and confirmation were administered. One of the baptisms was that of Levi, infant son of Mrs. Margaret Moulthrop. Those who received confirmation were: Miss M. E. Weldon, Mrs. Margaret Moulthrop, Salmon R. and Spencer S. Weldon. Aside from these yearly visitations by the bishop, the few church families in and around Rockford were without the sacraments of the church, except an occasional serv-

ice by some missionary priest from a distant point. In 1845 the Rev. Alfred Lauderback, of New York state, was appointed by the domestic board of missions to the missionary field of northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin, with Belvidere and Rockford as chief points of location. This fact meant more regular and frequent services for Rockford. The new missionary's first service was held August 10, 1845. Father Lauderback ministered in this section two years, when he was sent to take charge of the parish which had been recently organized at Galena, Ill. From this time for several years occasional services were held in the village by the Rev. Dudley Chase, a son of the bishop, and the Revs. Humphrey and Millett, of Beloit, Wis.; Pulford, of Belvidere; Johnston, of Pekin, and Miller, of Bonus, Ill., the father of Orrin Miller, an early Rockford attorney. Services were generally held in the new courthouse.

The present parish at Rockford was organized May 1, 1849. A meeting of the parishioners, both men and women, was convened, at which the Rev. Dudley Chase presided, and the parochial organization was effected in accordance with the prescribed canonical form. The articles of association were signed by Chauncy Ray, Jonathan Weldon, Horace Starkey, Duncan J. Stewart, John Conrad, S. R. Weldon, and Spencer S. Weldon. Upon the organization of the parish, the parishioners proceeded to the election of a vestry. Those elected were: senior warden, Horace Starkey; junior warden, Chauncy Ray; vestrymen, John Conrad, Duncan J. Stewart, S. R. Weldon. The Rev. Dudley Chase was called to be the first rector. He accepted the call, but afterward declined, as he preferred to accept a charge in Chicago, where he organized the Parish of the Atonement, which was afterward merged into Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral. On November 15, 1852, the Rev. Charles Reighley, of Chicago, was called to the rectorship of the Rockford parish. With the consent of the new bishop, Rt. Rev. Henry John Whitehouse, the call was accepted, and the first rector entered at once upon his work. Bishop Chase had died September 27, 1852, and had been succeeded by Bishop Whitehouse. A lot was purchased on the corner of North Church and North streets, for \$200, and a church building erected at a cost of \$1,900. The new church was consecrated by Bishop Whitehouse, August

23, 1853, "by the name of Emmanuel Church, Rockford."

Succeeding the Rev. Charles Reighley have been the following rectors in the order named: Revs. Anson Clark, Michael Schofield, William T. Smithett, Thomas Smith, S. B. Duffield, J. E. Walton, S. D. Day, C. S. Percival, F. W. Adams, A. W. Snyder, D. C. Peabody, Wyllys Rede, and N. B. Clinch. The Rev. D. C. Peabody became rector March 1, 1886. During his rectorship the present rectory was purchased, and the Fairfield Memorial Parish House erected, at a cost of \$40,000. The latter was the gift of one parishioner, Mrs. Eleanor G. Fairfield, and was erected as a memorial to her husband, W. W. Fairfield. An additional 30 feet of land adjoining the church lot on the west was purchased, at a cost of \$1,600, and many other permanent improvements made in the parish. Emmanuel church, like the Episcopal churches all over America, has calmly pursued the even tenor of its way. Centuries ago the forefathers, in iconoclastic zeal, discarded the beauty and sublimity of her ritual. With a sort of reversion to type instinct, non-conformist churches have from time to time since then incorporated portions of her ritual into their service. Like air and sunshine, it appeals to the great universal, and will ever maintain its place in public worship. Four of the greatest spiritual forces of the centuries, Frederick W. Robertson, Frances Ridley Havergal, Phillips Brooks and Archdeacon Farrar, have found in this venerable church a congenial atmosphere for the highest development of the religious nature.

JEWISH.

The orthodox Jewish population of Rockford worships in a synagogue on North Fifth street, which was purchased and remodeled at the personal expense of Israel Rubin. Services have been held since 1900, but it was not until 1911 that a formal organization was effected. I. Miller is the rabbi now in charge. There is a membership of fifty. The Salvation Army

LUTHERAN.

The First Swedish Lutheran Church was organized January 15, 1854, with seventy-seven communicants and thirty-two children. S. A. Johnson is the only surviving charter member.

Late in the summer of 1855 it was decided to build a church. The original estimate of cost was \$775. Its actual cost, however, was \$1,600. This church was erected on the corner of North First street and what is now Lafayette avenue. It was a frame structure, 45 by 38 feet, and 28 feet high. It had a seating capacity for 300 persons. The dedication occurred November 23, 1856. Dr. Hasselquist preached the dedicatory sermon. The first pastor was Rev. A. Andren, who was called in the spring of 1856, and entered upon his duties in August of the same year. Mr. Andren built a parsonage on the church lot at his own expense, with the understanding that at the termination of his pastorate the church should buy the building at its original cost. Rev. Andren's pastorate continued until the close of 1860, when he removed to Attica, Ind. In May, 1860, the church decided to withdraw from the synod of Northern Illinois, and join the Augustana synod. At that time the church had 115 communicants.

The present church was built in 1883, at a cost of about sixty thousand dollars. It is the largest auditorium in the city, with a seating capacity for 2,000. Its membership is 1,800, with a communicant list of 1,363. The church had at one time the largest membership of any Swedish Lutheran church in America. The church owns Luther hall, a parochial school on Kishwaukee street, and another on Fourteenth avenue. It also owns a parsonage on South Third street. The pastors have been: Revs. A. Andren, A. W. Dahlsten, G. Peters, L. A. Johnston, E. C. Jessup, assistant; Joel Haaf, and J. F. Seedoff, who came in 1896.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church was organized as a Swedish congregation in the general synod July 20, 1882, with eighty-five members. A lot was purchased on the corner of Third avenue and Sixth street, and the church was dedicated October 14, 1883. The general synod pastors have been: C. Anderson, 1882-84; C. Hansen, 1884-88; C. Roos, 1888-90. The church withdrew from the general synod and entered Augustana synod in 1890. While yet a Swedish congregation it employed the following Augustana pastors: A. P. Fors, 1890-91; G. Juhlin, 1892-95.

On April 22, 1895, a bold step was taken; the mother tongue was abandoned and the language

of the land adopted. Those unable to understand the latter quietly withdrew and others soon began to take their places. As an English-speaking congregation it has employed the following laymen and pastors: Edwin Stenholm, 1895; C. A. Wendell, 1895-97; Rev. Oscar Nelson, 1897-00; Rev. O. M. Anderson, 1900-01; Rev. C. O. Solberg, 1901-03; Prof. C. J. Sodergren, 1903 (summer months); Rev. C. A. Wendell, January 1, 1904, to 1911; Rev. J. W. Johnson, January 21, 1912, to date. The change of language has proven wise and timely, and the work has been highly successful. The church has 473 communicant members, with a total membership of 559.

A German Lutheran congregation was organized in the '70s by Rev. F. N. Richman, of Elgin, with the name of Emmanuel Lutheran. This church is now extinct. About 1882 dissension arose, and a number withdrew and organized the Evangelical Lutheran St. Paul's church, U. A. C., which means the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, as contained in the Book of Concord of 1580. Services were conducted by supplies until 1888, when Rev. L. Doru was called. The present faithful pastor is Rev. Otto Gruener. He has been in charge since 1895, and the church is in a prosperous condition. There are 285 communicant members, and a total membership of 500.

The Swedish Lutheran Zion Church was organized August 7, 1883, with a communicant membership of 146. Among the charter members who are still living and active in the church are: C. F. Anderson, Andrew Kjellgren and John Glans. At first the congregation worshiped in the Chick Hall, East State street, and later in Metropolitan Hall. In October, 1884, the congregation had the pleasure of moving into the new church that it had erected on the southwest corner of Fifth avenue and Sixth street, through tremendous sacrifice by the comparatively small flock. This is the building that still serves as a house of worship. A layman, Mr. Jonas Larson, served as preacher the first year. In the spring of 1884 a call was extended to Rev. C. G. Lundell to become pastor. The call was accepted. This gentleman served the church to 1888, and saw the congregation in-



Loly B Hall

crease to communicant membership of 525. Since then the following pastors have served the church: Rev. S. G. Ohman, 1888-1894; Rev. J. A. Ekstrom, 1894-1900; Rev. N. P. Sjöstrom, 1900-1911; Rev. G. E. Hemdahl, 1912 to the present time.

In 1910 a parsonage was built at a cost of \$10,000, including site. The present communicant membership is 1,415, with baptized children within the church 400. The Sunday-school has a membership of 830. The annual income for the support of the work in the local church, and contributions to the missions and charitable institutions of the synod has for some years amounted to \$12,000.

Trinity English Lutheran Church was organized by Rev. W. H. Manss, March 10, 1895, with forty members. Services were held in the Y. M. C. A. building and later in the brick building owned by the old Christian church. In 1898 the society purchased this property for \$3,400. The growth of the membership was rapid, and soon outgrew the small edifice, which was torn down, to make room for a more commodious structure. This house of worship was dedicated December 16, 1900. Mr. Manss was succeeded April 1, 1896, by Rev. H. M. Bannen, to whom the church is indebted for its phenomenal growth. He is an eloquent preacher, and an indefatigable worker, and his magnetic personality has been the inspiration of his people. Mr. Bannen is beloved by all sorts and conditions of men; by people of every faith and of no faith.

In the spring of 1894, while the pastor was in Palestine, the church purchased the Trowbridge homestead on Lafayette avenue for the parsonage. The church purchased a pipe organ in 1914. The church has 830 communicant members and a total membership of 1,200.

The Salem Lutheran Church was organized nine years ago. Rev. A. Appell, of Peoria, Ill., was called by the Swedish Lutheran Mission Board of the Illinois conference to begin missionary work in the southeast end of the city. He began the work in November, 1906, and January 6, 1907, the Salem Lutheran Church was organized. Mr. Appell remained until the spring of 1908. Rev. J. A. Benander, of Aurora, Ill., was called and took up the work in the

autumn of 1908. From the beginning the church has made excellent progress and has now 350 communicants, with a total membership, children included, of 525. The Sunday-school has an enrollment of 350. A beautiful church, with only a nominal debt, has been erected on the corner of Sixth street and Sixteenth avenue at a cost of \$40,000. From the beginning the Salem Lutheran Church has been interested in both home and foreign missionary work, and is forging to the front, becoming one of the strong churches of the city.

A Norwegian-Danish church was organized a few years ago and has fitted a small and attractive church on Fourth avenue.

METHODIST.

It has been said that John Wesley gave thousands of dollars to the poor, and at his death left to the world two silver spoons and the Methodist church. The latter has proved a splendid legacy. Methodism has always been a pioneer. It received its baptism of divine energy in the days of John and Charles Wesley. George Whitefield caught the holy flame, and came to America to preach the simple gospel to the common people, and Methodism has since kept pace with the course of empire that westward takes its way. Methodism was established in Winnebago County in 1836, the vanguard of the church militant to enter and possess the land. The only available information concerning the first church organized in Winnebago County is found in a sermon preached by Bishop Vincent fifty years ago, at the time he was pastor of the Court Street Methodist church; and an excellent historical address delivered by Rev. G. R. Vanhorne, D. D., August 6, 1882, in the Centennial Methodist church.

Galeua was the first appointment within the bounds of the present Rock River conference. It was at that time, in 1829, in the Illinois conference, which comprised the states of Indiana and Illinois. The Indiana conference was formed in 1834. After this separation of Indiana from the Illinois conference, the latter still covered a vast region. In the autumn of 1835 Rev. William Royal was appointed to the Fox River mission. Rev. Samuel Pillsbury was associated with him. This mission circuit extended northward

from Ottawa. In June, 1836, Rev. Pillsbury preached a sermon at the home of Henry Enoch, in Guilford Township, seven and one-half miles east of Rockford. This was the first service in the county conducted by a Methodist clergyman. On that occasion Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Beers and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gregory traveled six miles in a heavy lumber wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen. Verily, these godly pioneers were not carried to the skies, nor even to church, on "flowery beds of ease." The first service was followed during the summer by occasional sermons by Rev. Royal at Mr. Enoch's house, and Mrs. Enoch often prepared Sunday dinners for the congregation. On his way to conference at Springfield, in the autumn of 1836, Rev. Royal passed through Rockford, and in September he preached in Samuel Gregory's log house, which stood on what is now block 14 in Gilbert Woodruff's Second Addition to Rockford. At the close of the sermon Rev. Royal organized the first Methodist class, which consisted of five persons: Samuel Gregory, Joanna Gregory, Mary Enoch, Daniel Beers and Mary Beers. These pioneer Methodists have been honored by five memorial front windows in Centennial church. Mr. Gregory and Mrs. Beers were living when Dr. Vanhorne delivered his memorial address. Dr. Vincent, in his sermon, made this reference to that humble beginning: "I visited a few days ago the remains of the old log house, scarcely a mile east of the river, and near the railroad, where this organization of Methodism took place. It was in an humble place, but in the midst of a glorious land and under a benignant heaven that this little germ was planted, and it has grown rapidly, and the five have become nearly a thousand who live under the shadow of Rockford Methodism today; and who can tell of the number who have gone up from the field of conflict into the temple of triumph?"

At the conference of 1836 Bishop Roberts appointed Dr. Arnold to the Sycamore circuit, of which Rockford was a part. The few Methodists gathered for worship as often as possible at Mr. Gregory's house. In 1837 the conference met at Rushville, when Bishop Roberts sent William Gaddis, with Robert Lane as assistant, to the Rockford circuit. This circuit belonged to the Chicago district, over which John Clark was presiding elder. Mr. Lane soon retired from the field, and he was succeeded by Leander S. Walker. At the conference of 1838, at Alton,

Bishop Soule returned Mr. Walker to Rockford as preacher in charge, with Nathan Jewett as assistant. During the early part of Mr. Walker's pastorate he preached in the house of James Boswell, north of the brewery. The Methodists subsequently worshipped in a building erected by Mr. Haight on the site of the American House. This building was used for various purposes. In the summer of 1838 the Methodists built a parsonage on First street, between Prairie street and Lafayette avenue, facing west. This was the first Methodist parsonage built within what is now the Rock River conference. The first quarterly meeting was held late in the summer.

The Rock River conference was organized August 26, 1840, at Mt. Morris. Bishop Waugh presided over this conference, which was held in a grove. Rockford was retained in the Chicago district, with John T. Mitchell as presiding elder, and Semphronious H. Stocking as circuit preacher. The next conference was held at Platteville, Wis., when Bishop Morris sent John Crummer to Rockford. The Methodists were then holding services in the brick schoolhouse on the East side public square. The Universalists appointed their service at the same hour and place, and differences arose. The Methodists withdrew from the schoolhouse; the pastor removed his family "up-stairs," and finished the lower story of the parsonage as a chapel. On August 3, 1842, the conference met in Chicago, and Bishop Roberts assigned Rockford to the care of Silas Bolles. At this time the Methodist body was worshipping in what was afterward known as the "old seminary building." This structure had been begun as a Congregational church, but was abandoned for the church built on the West side by Kent and Brinckerhoff. In 1842 the Methodists bought this property of the county commissioners, and held it for some years. On September 20, 1842, the First Methodist church became an incorporate body, with five trustees: Horace Miller, James B. Martyn, Samuel Gregory, Daniel Beers and Willard Wheeler. At the conference in Dubuque, Iowa, August 30, 1843, Rockford was made a "station," and Bishop Andrews sent Richard Blanchard. In November of that year the trustees of the society purchased of Daniel S. Haight the lot on which the parsonage had been built five years previous. The consideration was \$200. In 1849 the trustees sold the property to George Shearer,

for \$300. The lot was later occupied by Thomas Sully's residence.

Nathaniel P. Heath succeeded Mr. Blanchard in 1844. He was sent by Bishop Morris, who presided at the conference in Milwaukee. In August, 1845, the conference met at Peoria, and Bishop Morris sent Charles D. Cahoon to Rockford. He filled this appointment only once, and died September 25th. His remains are buried in the Cedar Bluff cemetery. Of the fifty-eight pastors who were assigned to Rockford pulpits from 1836 to 1882, Mr. Cahoon is the only one who died among this people while in the pastorate. John Lucock was sent to fill out the term of Mr. Cahoon. During his pastorate the society resolved to build a church. The quarterly conference appointed John Lucock, Willard Wheeler, G. O. Holmes, James B. Martyn, Horace Miller, Samuel Gregory, Edward Fitch, and Eliphalet Gregory as a building committee, to superintend the erection of the edifice, which was to be called "The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Rockford." The amount subscribed was \$2,312.

In 1846 Nathaniel P. Heath was re-assigned to this charge, at the request of the society, by Bishop Hamline, who presided over the conference at Galena. In February, 1846, the trustees purchased of William H. Gilman, lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, in the east half of block 31, fronting on South Second street, between Oak and Walnut. The consideration was \$325. This part of the town was then called the "Barrens," and was a hunting-ground for the boys. These lots, except lot 1, are the same upon which the Centennial church and parsonage now stand, and which were occupied by the First church and parsonage. The contract for building the First church was made with M. H. Regan, in 1846, but it was not completed until 1848. The brick for the church was made by Hiram Richardson; the stone for the foundation was donated by Jesse Buckbee. The conference of 1847 was held in August, at Chicago, Bishop Waugh presiding, and James E. Wilson was assigned to Rockford. The church was completed and dedicated during his pastorate. On March 13, 1848, a second subscription paper was circulated. The document contained this proviso: "That the seats in said church shall be free for all, in accordance with the discipline and usages of said church,—if not free these subscriptions to be null and void." The amount

pledged was \$2,069. The dedication of the church occurred June 1, 1848. Leander S. Walker preached the dedicatory sermon. The cost of the church was about \$7,000. The pulpit of this sanctuary had an unique history. Several years before, Samuel Gregory had taken careful forethought for his burial, and cut down a stately walnut tree, sawed it into boards and solemnly stored them away for his coffin. Nature seemed to resent the insinuation, and the country became so healthy as to render his efforts useless. Before Mr. Gregory had an opportunity to die, William Logue came to Rockford with an abundance of undertaking supplies, and Mr. Gregory relegated the well seasoned boards to the loft of his barn. When the First church needed a pulpit, he brought forth his treasure of walnut and literally laid it on the altar. When the Centennial church was built, the historic desk given by the first class-leader was carefully taken apart, and fashioned into the beautiful piece of furniture upon which the Bible now rests. Mr. Gregory lived more than forty years after this strange preparation for his burial; and that which was intended to encase a dead body, now holds the living word.

Canton was the seat of the conference in 1848, when Bishop Morris sent James C. Parks to Rockford, the first preacher who remained two years on this charge. During his first year, in 1849, the society built a "grout" parsonage on the corner lot just south of where the present parsonage stands. William P. Jones and Francis A. Reed succeeded Mr. Parks. It was during the pastorate of Mr. Reed that the Second Methodist Episcopal church was organized. These were successful years for local Methodism. At the end of his term he reported four hundred members and twenty probationers.

From 1841 to 1853 Rockford had been a part of the Mt. Morris district. In the latter year, the conference redistricted the work, and the Rockford district was formed. Bishop Scott sent Luke Hitchcock to the district as presiding elder. William Tasker was assigned to the First church, and "West Rockford" was left to be supplied by Mr. Chatfield. Lewiston was the seat of the next conference, which was held September 13, 1854. James Baume was sent from this session by Bishop Morris to East Rockford. He served the church two years and

went to India as a missionary in 1859, and remained seven years. He was stationed at Lucknow, where his daughter, Mrs. Henry D. Andrew, was born.

From the Aurora conference, September 12, 1856, Bishop Simpson sent Hooper Crews to this charge. During his second year the society again swarmed, and the Third Street church was formed. At the conference of August, 1858, which met at Wankegan, the three societies in Rockford were respectively named First Church, Court Street and Third Street. The next conference was held at Galena, in October, 1859, when Bishop Ames reappointed Francis A. Reed to the First church. Mrs. Reed died during his first year. The Swedish Methodist Episcopal church was organized in July, 1861, during his second year.

Freeport entertained the conference of 1861. Bishop Simpson presided, and the pastors of the First church until 1866 were: Joseph Hartwell, Amos P. Mead, David Teed, and G. L. S. Stuff. Rev. James Baume, who had just returned from the mission field in India, was assigned to Rockford by Bishop Clark, who presided over the conference held at Ottawa in 1866. Mrs. Baume died in 1867. Mr. Baume's second wife is a sister of Mrs. Thomas G. Lawler. In 1883 Mr. Baume returned to the foreign field. He first went to Naini Tab, a resort in the Himalaya mountains, and thence to Bowen church in Bombay. He returned in 1893 to Rockford, after having given seventeen years to foreign missionary fields. Mr. Baume died in June, 1897. Circumlocution Judge Baume, of Galena, is a son.

Bishop Clark presided over the conference which assembled at Freeport in 1869. He sent Joseph Odgers to Rockford, and he remained with the First church three years. During his second year the present brick parsonage of Centennial church was erected. The old parsonage was converted into a barn and removed to the rear of the lot. The conference of 1872 met with the Third church of Rockford. Bishop Wiley sent William H. Gloss to the First church and he remained two years. His successor was Giles L. Wiley, who was appointed by Bishop Bowman, of the conference which met at Sterling in 1874. In 1875, Bishop Bowman, presiding over the conference at Chicago, sent to the First church its last pastor in the person of the venerable Hooper Crews.

The portraits of many of these pioneer Methodist ministers adorn the parlors of Centennial church. There is also a picture of the First Methodist church.

During the pastorate Rev. F. A. Reed, the congregation of the First Methodist Church became so large that he suggested the formation of another church on the West side. In 1851 the Methodists living on the West side held their Sunday and Thursday evening prayer-meetings at the home of the leader, James B. Skinner, on North Main street. The organization of what is now the Court Street Methodist Church was completed January 1, 1852, in the First church. The charter members, as nearly as can be ascertained, were as follows: James B. Skinner, Charlotte L. Skinner, William Hazard, Louisa Hazard, Elizabeth Keyes, Rev. Wm. Fowler, Mrs. Elizabeth Fowler, Daniel Ticknor, Thomas Peters, Ann Peters, Clark Fisher, Francis Richards, Lucy Richards, James Preston, Ann Preston, Jonathan Hitchcock, Mrs. J. Hitchcock, Asael Ives, Mary Ives, Dr. Charles N. Andrews, Mary Dewey, Joanna Davis, George Boyd, Alzira Andrews, George Reeves, Elizabeth Reeves, G. W. Reeves, W. J. Cole, Mary Cole, William Hamley, John Travis, Mrs. Travis, John Austin, Mrs. Austin. The following board of trustees were elected: William J. Cole, James Taylor, Charles N. Andrews, Jonathan Hitchcock, and James B. Skinner. In 1852 the Dorcas Society was organized. On January 14, 1853, a lot was purchased on North Court street, and the erection of a church was soon begun, with John Austin, architect; Jonathan Hitchcock, mason; and W. J. Cole, carpenter. During the erection of the church, the congregation worshipped in Boyd's Hall. Rev. Luke Hitchcock was presiding elder.

The conference of 1853 sent Rev. Chatfield, who remained a part of the year, and then returned to Michigan. Rev. William Tasker, pastor of the First church, assumed oversight of the church until the next conference. In September, 1854, Rev. W. F. Stewart was appointed pastor. The dedication of the new church occurred in November, 1854, conducted by Revs. Hooper Crews, Bolles, Stuff, and Agard. The cost of the building and grounds was \$7,000. A revival followed the opening of the new

church, and during that conference year 140 persons were added to their numbers.

In 1864 Court Street Church was set off in the Mt. Morris district, and William T. Harlow was appointed presiding elder. This division of territory was unsatisfactory, and in 1865 this charge was returned to the Rockford district, where it belonged, and where it has since remained. August 26, 1857, the conference met with this church. This conference was signalized by the passage of stringent anti-slavery resolutions, and in "breaking ground" for the Wesleyan seminary.

In the summer of 1856 a movement was begun for the founding of a co-educational seminary in Rockford, under the control of the Methodist Episcopal church, and on February 14, 1857, an act of the legislature was approved, to incorporate the Rockford Wesleyan Seminary. The incorporators were E. F. W. Ellis, T. D. Robertson, D. W. Ticknor, and W. F. Stewart. There were to be twelve trustees, appointed by the stockholders, eight of whom should at all times be members of the Methodist Episcopal church. A board of three visitors was to be appointed by the annual Rock River conference. The company was to have a capital stock of \$100,000, divided into shares of \$100 each. A farm of about 216 acres was purchased of William M. Rowland. It adjoined Judge Church's farm on the west, and extended north to the State road. The purchase price and accrued interest amounted to nearly \$20,000. A large portion of this tract was platted into town lots, and it was proposed to build a college suburban town. The sale of lots occurred April 29, 1857. The subscribers to stock purchased lots. Rev. W. F. Stewart had been transferred from the Ohio to the Rock River conference, and had been assigned to the Second or Court Street church. Rev. Stewart was made purchasing agent for the seminary by the annual conference. On August 31, 1857, the ceremony of breaking ground for the seminary buildings took place under the direction of Rev. T. M. Eddy, who was in attendance upon Rock River conference, which was then in session in Rockford. When the ground was broken, \$57,000 had been subscribed. The enterprise, however, was unsuccessful. Quite a number of houses were built, but in time several of them migrated into town on rollers, and the land reverted to farming purposes.

The first pastors of the Court Street Church served in the following order: 1853-54, Rev. Chatfield; 1854-55, Rev. W. F. Stewart; 1856-58, Rev. Luman A. Sanford; 1858-60, William P. Gray; 1860-61, Revs. James R. Goodrich, William E. Daniels, T. B. Taylor. Rev. J. H. Vincent, founder of the Chautauqua movement, and now a bishop of the church, was pastor from 1861 to 1864. During his absence on a trip to Europe, the pulpit was supplied by Rev. Daniel P. Kidder, D. D.

Dr. Vincent's successors have been: Revs. F. P. Cleveland, T. C. Clendenning, L. Meredith, William Aug. Smith, C. E. Mandeville, T. P. Marsh, T. R. Strobbridge, P. H. Swift, W. A. Phillips, W. O. Shepard, 1891-1895; Fred H. Sheets, 1895-1897; R. H. Pooley, 1897-1903; Frank D. Sheets, 1893-1899; J. M. Taber; Frank N. Lynch, 1911-1915; Chesteen Smith, appointed in December, 1915. Dr. Shepard was made a bishop at the general conference in 1912. The present house of worship was dedicated in May, 1887, at a cost of nearly \$80,000. The site for the parsonage was purchased from the Horsman estate in 1884, and the house was completed the same year. The church house, an addition erected for institutional work, was erected in 1916 at a cost of \$60,000. The total value of the church property, including parsonage, is \$145,000. This is the largest investment in church property in the city. The membership of the church January 1, 1916, was 1,009.

The Winnebago Street Church had its origin in a Sunday-school, which was started May 20, 1856, and which held its sessions in a grove on the river bank. From the grove, in October, the school went, by invitation of the directors, into the new Kent schoolhouse. The sabbath-school was under the supervision of the Court Street Church. The church was organized March 4, 1864, at the home of Israel Sovereign. The presiding elder, Richard A. Blanchard, acted as chairman. The roll of members numbered twenty-eight. The following board of trustees was elected: Israel Sovereign, Fred. A. Arnold, Josephus Lakin, Benjamin F. Whipple, and Stephen Thayer. Ground was broken for the new church August 8, 1864. The church was dedicated February 12, 1865, by Dr. T. M. Eddy, author of "The Patriotism of Illinois." The parsonage was built in 1867. Rev. Robert Bent-

ley served as pastor from 1864 to 1866; Rev. William D. Skeltou from 1866 to 1869; Henry L. Martiu, 1869 to 1871; John M. Caldwell, F. A. Reed, R. S. Cantine, W. S. Harrington, W. H. Smith, J. M. Cleudenniug, W. H. Haight, Henry Lea, J. W. Richards, F. F. Farmiloe, M. L. Norris, F. B. Hardin, 1901-1907; Samuel Earngey, 1907 to May, 1908; William Aylesworth, May, 1908, to October, 1911; Euos Holt, 1911-1914; W. S. Feldwisch, 1914-15; A. D. Foster, October, 1915, to date. A brick structure was erected in 1904, and dedicated November 27. The church property is valued at \$25,000, and its membership is 240.

The Third Street Church was the second daughter of the First Methodist Church. It was organized January 9, 1858, with about eighty members, while Rev. Hooper Crews was pastor of the parent church. Messrs. Benjamin Holt, William Brown, Charles Foster, Solomon Wheeler, George Troxell, Willard Wheeler, William Worthington, Francis A. Horn and James Chick constituted the first board of trustees. Two lots were purchased on the east side of North Third street. The church was built in 1858, and was dedicated by Hooper Crews October 9, 1858. Rev. Thomas M. Eddy, the well-known editor and author, preached the following Sunday. A small parsonage was built adjoining the edifice on the north in 1859. In 1866 the church was enlarged and improved, and in 1871 the society bought a parsonage on State street, nearly opposite the Baptist church. This property was subsequently owned by Henry C. Gill, and in 1874 the society sold the former parsonage on Third street.

The Third Street Church became strong and influential. Rev. Nathaniel P. Heath served from 1858-60; Rev. Luman A. Sanford, 1860-62. May 19, 1876, the First Church and the Third Street Church concluded to unite their fortunes and spend their future as one body, under the name of the Centennial Church.

The Swedish Methodist Church was organized January 30, 1861, with a membership of twelve, at the home of P. A. Peterson, on Charles street, who was the last surviving member. The society purchased the old Westminster chapel, and removed it to First avenue. The present

brick edifice was erected in 1877, and was dedicated by Rev. C. E. Mandeville. The parsonage was built in 1888. The following pastors have served the church: Revs. V. Witting, Albert Erickson, Peter Newburg, August Westergren, Eric Shogren, Olof Gunderson, John Lind, A. T. Westergren, S. B. Newman, John Wigren, D. S. Sorlin, Herman Lindskog, N. G. Nelson, J. M. Ojerholm, A. Kahliu, A. Dahlberg, M. Hess, O. F. Lindstrom, Richard Cederberg, 1894-1896; N. M. Liljegren, 1896-1898; A. N. Sorlin, 1898-1899; G. H. Johnson, 1899-1902; P. M. Alfvén, 1902-1907; A. R. Melin, 1907-1912; A. Salles, 1912-1914; Olof Johanson, 1914, to date. There are 200 members and 222 in the Sunday-school.

Centennial Church was formed by the union of the old First and Third Street Methodist Episcopal churches on May 19, 1876, under the pastorate of Rev. Hooper Crews. The first board of trustees was composed of William Brown, George Troxell, Clark Miller, H. B. Soper, John Budlong, Joseph Rodd, Thomas G. Lawler, Reuben Sovereign and John C. Gregory. It was voted that a new house of worship should be erected as soon as possible; and this task was consummated during the pastorate of Rev. G. R. Vanhorne. This church, which stands near the corner of South Second and Oak streets, was dedicated by Bishop Fowler, September 9, 1883. It occupies a convenient site and, with the parsonage, is valued at \$50,000.

The pastors appointed to this church have been: 1877-1878, Hooper Crews; 1878-1881, William A. Spencer; 1881-1884, Garret R. Vanhorne; 1884-1887, William Aug. Smith; 1887-1890, Martin E. Cady; 1890-1891, Fred Porter and J. R. Hamilton; 1891-1893, J. S. Bell; 1893-1896, John N. Hall; 1896-1901, W. W. Painter; 1901-1902, John Thompson; 1902-1905, Harlow V. Holt; 1905-1911, F. W. Barnum; 1911-1914, C. J. Bready; 1914-1915, E. E. McKay; Rev. E. G. Schutz, the present pastor, was assigned at the last session of the Rock River conference. William Aug. Smith died suddenly while conference was in session in Rockford in 1887; and Fred Porter died a short time after assuming the pastorate.

Epworth Methodist Episcopal Church was organized as the Ninth Street Church in the



Ellen Hall



Wright-Hall

spring of 1876, by Rev. G. L. Wiley, who was then pastor of the First Methodist Church. The society was designed to be a feeder for the First church, and began with fifteen charter members. The Swedish Methodist church building was purchased for \$300, and removed to Ninth street, at a cost of \$300. The first year the society was under the care of the First church. The second year a pastor was sent by the conference, and since that time the church has maintained an independent existence. In 1891 the old church was sold and a new edifice erected on the old site. The new church was later removed to its present location at the corner of Parmele street and Fourteenth avenue, and the name changed to Epworth church. In 1915 Epworth and New Milford were made one charge. The pastors have been: Revs. G. L. Wiley, Joseph Odgers, W. A. Spencer, W. H. Barnett, A. J. Brill, E. J. Rose, Joseph Wardell, H. L. Martin, F. R. Hall, J. L. Gardiner, J. W. Irish, C. W. Case, Frank Milnes, Charles Wentworth, C. F. Kleihauer, W. A. Forbs, C. A. Briggs, C. W. Jaycox and Edward S. Nicholas.

Grace Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in the autumn of 1891 to meet the needs of a growing population on the west side of Kent's Creek. There were thirty-nine charter members. Some of these came from other churches, but the society was not an offshoot from any other body. The church was organized under the administration of Presiding Elder Haight. The first pastor was Rev. Frank D. Sheets, who served five years. His successors have been Revs. Frank McNamer, J. B. Robinson, T. E. Ream, E. K. D. Hester, T. R. Strobbridge, 1904-1906; W. L. Whipple, 1906-1909; F. F. Farmiloe, 1909-1913; S. H. Wirsching, 1913 to date. Mr. Wirsching's energetic pastorate has been signalized by the erection of a beautiful church at the corner of West State street and Hinckley avenue, which is approaching dedication. The church has property valued at \$48,000. It has a membership of 510, with 590 enrolled in the Sunday-school.

A complete list of the presiding elders who have served on the districts in which the Rockford appointments have been located, are as follows: 1836-40, John Clark, Chicago district;

1840-41, John T. Mitchell, Chicago district; 1841-42, S. H. Stocking, Mt. Morris district; 1842-44, John T. Mitchell, Mt. Morris district; 1844-48, Hooper Crews, Mt. Morris district; 1848-50, Philo Judson, Mt. Morris district; 1850-53, Richard Haney, Mt. Morris district; 1853-54, Luke Hitchcock, Rockford district; 1854-58, Rev. G. L. S. Stuff, Rockford district; 1858-60, Hooper Crews, Rockford district; 1860-64, Richard A. Blanchard, Rockford district; 1864-65, W. T. Harlow, Mt. Morris district; 1864-68, L. A. Sanford (six months), Rockford district; 1864-68, H. L. Martin (three years and six months); 1868-72, W. C. Willing; 1872-76, W. P. Gray; 1876-80, Henry L. Martin; 1880-84, C. E. Mandeville; 1884-89, G. R. Vanhorne; 1889-95, W. H. Haight; 1895-1901, F. A. Hardin; 1901-07, Samuel Earngey; 1907-11, A. D. Traveller; 1911 to date, J. A. Matlack. In 1908 the title of the office was changed from presiding elder to district superintendent.

Of the seventy-six sessions of the Rock River conference, nine have been held in Rockford. The first convened with the First Church, July 18, 1849. Edmund S. Janes was the presiding bishop. August 26, 1857, the conference convened in Court Street Church, with Lewis Scott as presiding bishop. At the conference held with the First Church, September 23, 1863, Bishop Scott again presided. October 9, 1872, the conference met in the Third Street Church, with Bishop Isaac W. Wiley presiding. The next conference in Rockford met October 13, 1880, in Court Street Church. Bishop Hurst presided. The charge of heresy preferred against Dr. H. W. Thomas was considered and referred to the presiding elder of his district. September 21, 1884, the conference convened with Centennial Church. Bishop Henry W. Warren presided. Bishop Mallalieu presided at the conference held with Court Street Church, September 27, 1887. The eighth conference convened with Centennial Church, October 3, 1899, with Bishop Hurst in the chair. The last conference was held at Court Street Church in 1909, with Bishop D. A. Goodsell presiding.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church is the outgrowth of a Sunday-school held for some years in the First Congregational Church. It

was organized in 1891, with only seven members. The church owns property on the corner of Elm and Winnebago streets. The little society has been burdened for many years with a mortgage, which has been assumed, pro rata, by the stronger churches of the city. The church has been served by the following pastors: Revs. S. B. Jones, J. C. Anderson, J. W. Taylor, R. Taylor, Sandy McDowell, S. B. Moore, C. H. Thomas, A. Boyd, and P. M. Lewis.

The Free Methodists have maintained public worship in halls and private homes for some years. They now have a chapel on Elm street.

PRESBYTERIAN.

The First Presbyterian Church was organized Saturday, July 8, 1854, in the courthouse, by a committee from the Presbytery of Chicago. Thirty-six enrolled their names that afternoon, and two on the sabbath, making a membership of thirty-eight, as follows: William Johnson, Christina Johnson, Margaret Johnson, Deborah Burns, Charles M. Priestly, James Forbes, Esther Armstrong, Isabella Marshall, Elizabeth Clow, William McCall, James Nesbit, John Bull, Rebecca Kozier, Thomas Meredith, Grace Hinch, John Martin, A. Ferguson, Mary Parland, Janet Shepherd, Mary Johnson, Archibald Johnson, Michael Burns, Shepley Priestly, Fanny Moore, Petrina Forbes, Peter R. Marshall, Robert Clow, Sarah Forbes, Jane Blaine, Anna Nesbit, Sarah Bull, David Meredith, Nancy Meredith, Elizabeth Linn, Mary Martin, Mrs. A. Ferguson, William Shepherd, and John Tullock. William Johnson, Michael Burns, Thomas Meredith and Shepley Priestly were chosen to the eldership, and Robert Clow and William McCall were elected deacons, who were ordained and installed in their respective offices on the following day.

On December 3, 1855, the clerk of the session was instructed to apply to the board of domestic missions for an appropriation of \$300 to aid in the support of Rev. Hugh A. Brown, as the stated supply of the church. February 10, 1857, Rev. Moses Ordway, of the Presbytery of Chicago, was requested to be present at a meeting to make choice of a pastor. Rev. Hugh A. Brown was chosen. He declined the call, though he continued to supply the pulpit until January 1, 1858, when Rev. John M. Faris, of the Rich-

land Presbytery, synod of Ohio, was unanimously chosen pastor. Mr. Faris' pastorate continued four years and a half, until October, 1862. He was succeeded by Rev. Faunt Leroy Senour, who served from 1862 to 1866. Rev. J. S. Grimes declined a formal call, although he discharged the duties of the pastoral office until the autumn of 1869. The pastorate of Rev. A. J. Leyenberger continued from February, 1870, to April, 1874. In September of that year Rev. James A. Cruikshanks began his ministry of two years. He was succeeded by Dr. T. N. Cunningham, who served nearly all of 1877 as stated supply. Rev. J. K. Fowler came in January, 1878, and remained over six years. The pastorate of Rev. J. R. Sutherland continued from June, 1884, to February, 1889. He was succeeded by Rev. George Harkness, whose pastorate was from October, 1889, to June, 1903. The most distinctive pastorate, in length of service, was that of Rev. B. E. S. Ely, Jr., which began in February, 1894, and continued until May, 1906. Rev. Daniel E. Williamson came in September, 1906, and remained until October, 1913. The present pastor is Rev. W. H. Fulton, whose work began in December, 1913.

In September following the organization of the First Presbyterian Church the congregation worshiped in the old Unitarian church, on the northeast corner of Elm and Church streets. Services were held in the old courthouse from November, 1854, until March 1, 1855, when the old Unitarian church was purchased. The society used it for a time on the old site, and then removed it to the northeast corner of State and Winnebago streets, where the church continued to worship until December 20, 1868, when it took possession of its second house of worship.

The corner-stone of the present beautiful temple was laid in 1905; worship was begun in February, 1906, and the completed edifice was formally dedicated by Dr. Ely in 1908. The membership of the church is now 760.

The Westminster Presbyterian Church was organized January 3, 1856, with twenty-two members. Many of these had taken letters from the First Congregational Church. A fraternal feeling prevailed at the time of separation, but there was a conviction among those who were

distinctively Presbyterian that there was an opportunity for a society of that faith. The organization of the church occurred in the old Congregational Church. It was first called the Second Presbyterian, and the name was subsequently changed to Westminster. The constituent members were as follows: Thomas Garrison, Mrs. Electa Garrison, Ralph Giddings, Mrs. Cornelia Giddings, Joel B. Potter, Mrs. Adaline B. Potter, E. S. Rose, Mrs. Jerusha C. Rose, Eliza W. Rose, Charles Williams, Mrs. Sarah S. Williams, Frederick A. Hart, Mrs. Sylvia Hart, Eusebia More, Eliza White, Stephen Rose, Mrs. Amanda H. Rose, Frances Rose, Stephen Rose, Jr., J. H. Wheat, Mrs. Frances E. Wheat, Juliet F. Wheat. Mrs. Wheat was the last survivor of this group. Joel B. Potter, Charles Williams, J. H. Wheat and J. S. Rose constituted the first board of elders. The first deacons were Stephen Rose and Ralph Giddings. Rev. Morrison Huggins was the first pastor, who served until 1859. He literally gave his life for his people, and died during his pastorate. As he consciously drew near the end, he said: "A pastor's death-bed is his people's."

The first place of worship was the historic courthouse on North First street. In the summer of 1856 a chapel was completed on the ground now occupied by the lecture room of the church. This chapel soon proved too small, and public worship was conducted in Metropolitan Hall, pending the erection of the present church, which was dedicated in 1858.

In 1911 the present building was completely remodeled and refurnished, including a new pipe organ, and together with the commodious manse erected in 1904 provides a modern and complete plant for the various church activities. The membership has passed the 300 mark.

The following have served the church as pastor or stated supply: Rev. Morrison Huggins, 1856-1859; Rev. L. H. Johnson, 1859-1860; Rev. Charles Mattoon, D. D., 1860-1863; Rev. Charles A. Williams, 1864-1869; Rev. W. S. Curtis, D. D., 1869-1875; Rev. J. H. Ritchie, 1875-1878; Rev. T. S. Scott, 1879-1884; Rev. S. L. Conde, 1884-1889; Rev. W. M. Campbell, Ph. D., 1889-1893; Rev. W. T. Wilcox, 1894-1901; Rev. John Henry Boose, 1902-1909; Rev. Charles J. Wilson, 1909-1913; Rev. R. C. Cully, 1913.

The Third Presbyterian Church was organized in the fall of 1910 with about twenty members. The church grew out of a union Sunday-school which was held in the North Rockford W. C. T. U. Hall. The first pastor was Charles H. Evans, who had just completed his theological course at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. Mr. Evans came to the church while it was still in the hall in the spring of 1911.

Feeling the need of a church building, steps were taken to secure a church home, and in the spring of 1913 the congregation secured possession, by purchase, of the North End schoolhouse, upon which about \$4,000 was spent in remodelling it for the purposes of the church. The congregation moved into the building in October, 1913. The property is valued at \$10,000 and is well adapted to church work. Mr. Evans resigned in October, 1914, and was succeeded by Rev. Harry E. Purinton, who began his pastorate January 3, 1915. The church has 115 members.

SWEDISH EVANGELICAL.

The Swedish Evangelical Mission Society was organized June 1, 1875. Its faith is that of the Swedish Mission covenant, and its form of government is congregational. The church has a large brick structure, known as Mission Tabernacle, on Kishwaukee street, with a seating capacity of 1,100. The membership is 754. The Sunday-school was at one time the largest in the city. This leadership has not been maintained. The pastors have been Revs. Palmquist, John P. Lindell, John Gustafson, A. E. Wenstrand, 1883-1884; Alfred Karlen, F. M. Johnson, 1886-1897; S. W. Sundberg, who served seven years; O. P. Peterson, J. J. Daniels, and Alfred Erickson.

SWEDISH FREE CHURCH.

The Swedish Free Church was organized in 1884. The first services were held in the homes of the members, and subsequently they were conducted in Union Hall on East State street. The first house of worship was erected in 1888 on Fourth avenue between Fourth and Fifth street. This building was enlarged in 1894 by an addition and a basement. The growth of the church made it necessary for

still larger facilities for carrying on its work, and on November 25, 1906, a new church was dedicated on the corner of Sixth street and Fourth avenue. Its auditorium has a seating capacity for 1,400 and a basement that will seat 500. The cost was about \$35,000. The church has been served by the following pastors: Revs. Elof Nyberg, Prof. J. G. Princell, P. J. Elmquist, A. C. Leafgren, Gust F. Johnson and John A. Kalson, who took charge of the church in January, 1914. The church is thoroughly organized and its membership is above six hundred. Twenty-three of the younger members have taken up Christian work, either as ministers or missionaries.

UNITARIAN.

A number of the early settlers from New England were Unitarians of the old school. An effort to organize this sentiment was made as early as 1841, and when an organization was completed, Richard Montague, Isaac N. Cunningham, Francis Burnap, Ephraim Wyman and James M. Wight were elected trustees. There is no record of any progress during the next two years, and it may be concluded that there was only an occasional preaching service. Early in March, 1843, Rev. Joseph Harrington, of Chicago, came to Rockford and preached every evening of one week on the distinctive doctrines of Unitarianism, his efforts resulting in the organization of a church, the constituent members of which were: Joseph Harrington, Sarah F. Dennis, Isaac N. Cunningham, Nancy G. Cunningham, James Cunningham, Sarah M. Cunningham, Samuel Cunningham, Emily C. Cunningham, John Paul, R. B. Paul, W. D. Bradford, Catherine F. Goodhue, Ephraim Wyman, James M. Wight, John R. Kendall, Susan Goodrich. In December, 1844, steps were taken to secure a place of worship. It was proposed to purchase the unfinished Universalist church, which had been abandoned, but the project was not successful. Another unsuccessful effort was made to build in 1846.

On December 13, 1845, the Unitarian society of Rockford was organized at the home of Ephraim Wyman. The trustees chosen were: Ephraim Wyman, Thatcher Blake, and Richard Montague. For a number of years little was done. The church had services whenever a traveling clergyman was available. This condition

continued until 1849, when Rev. H. Snow volunteered to strengthen the waste places in this branch of Zion. The Unitarians were not sanguine, and at first Mr. Snow received little encouragement, but a new start was made. The church had hitherto held services in the courthouse, but now they felt the need of another place. The frame building which had been used by the First Baptist church was for sale. This old edifice may well be called a church cradle. It successively rocked the Baptists, Episcopalians, Unitarians and Presbyterians. At this time the Unitarians owned a lot on the northeast corner of Church and Elm streets. They had received \$250 from the American Unitarian Association, and with this they purchased the old Baptist building, which they removed upon their lot. For about a year Mr. Snow preached two Sundays in the month, and the other Sundays at Belvidere. He invited Rev. A. A. Livermore, who was then at Keene, N. H., to act the generous Christian part by presenting a communion service to the church. The ladies of Mr. Livermore's church complied with the request. Mr. Snow's health failed in the spring of 1850, and he was obliged to resign from his pastorate. He had been faithful in his efforts to lay an enduring foundation. Mr. Snow applied to the American Unitarian Association, and to Dr. Hosmer, an eminent divine and educator, to send a successor. Dr. Hosmer sent John M. Windsor, who had recently graduated from the Unitarian school at Meadville, Pa. About this time the accession of Mr. and Mrs. Melancthon Starr inspired the congregation with new energy and courage. The church enjoyed a fair degree of prosperity for several years. In 1853 it was proposed to build a more comfortable place of worship. A lot was purchased on the corner of Chestnut and Church streets, and generous subscriptions were secured. Work was begun on the new church in the same spring, and the church was dedicated April 18, 1855. Rev. Rush R. Shippen, of Chicago, preached the dedicatory sermon. On Sunday, May 6, a Sunday school was organized, with twenty-five pupils, with Rev. H. Snow as superintendent. Rev. John Murray served as pastor from 1854 to 1857.

On June 8, 1857, a call to the pastorate was sent to the Rev. Augustus H. Conant, of Geneva, Ill., who promptly accepted the call, at a salary of \$1,000, with certain privileges of vacation for



JONATHAN H. HALSTED



MRS. JONATHAN H. HALSTED

missionary work Sunday afternoons during a part of the year. Rev. Conant began his pastoral work July 12, 1857. The congregation then numbered about seventy. He purchased a home of Mr. Cospers, on the corner of Green and West streets. Mr. Conant enjoyed an extended personal acquaintance among distinguished representatives of the Unitarian faith, and other contemporaries. Among these were: William Ellery Channing, Theodore Parker, James Freeman Clarke, Horace Greeley, O. B. Frothingham, Margaret Fuller, Fred Douglass, and Robert Collyer. Among Rev. Conant's guests at his Rockford home were: Ralph Waldo Emerson, Prof. Youmans, Bayard Taylor, Tom Corwin, John Pierpont, and T. Starr King. James Freeman Clarke, in his autobiography, refers to Rev. Conant as a "saint and an apostle."

Augustus Hammond Conant was born October 16, 1811, at Brandon, Vt. When a young man he left his native state and settled as a farmer on the Des Plaines River, in Cook County, Ill. His parents were members of the Baptist church, and he was baptized into that fellowship before he came to Illinois. One day he entered the store of the Clarke Brothers, in Chicago, where he saw a copy of the Western Messenger. He became interested in the paper, and he was given several copies to take home. These Clarkes owned a book-store in Chicago, and were brothers of James Freeman Clarke, who was then the editor of the Messenger. Upon reading these papers, Mr. Conant resolved to consecrate his life to the ministry. He kept a journal of his daily life as a pioneer farmer from January 1, 1836, to the latter part of May, 1840. It presents in brief a vivid picture of life on the frontier, as lived by an ambitious young man who was obliged to make his own way in the world, and at the same time prepare himself for the ministry. Mr. Conant returned east May 25, 1840, and began study at Cambridge, under Prof. Henry Ware, Jr. After finishing his divinity course Mr. Conant began his ministry in 1841 at Geneva, Ill., where he preached sixteen years. A pamphlet entitled "Fifty Years of Unitarian Life," gives a pleasant picture of Mr. Conant's pastoral life at Geneva.

The church at Rockford prospered under Mr. Conant's ministry for a time. Rev. Robert Collyer said of him: "He was as quick to leap to the appeal of a crippled cobbler, and as strong

to save him, as if the Master had come out of heaven to bid him do it, and had told him he should have for his deed an endless renown, and the praises of all the choirs of heaven." But there came a serious declension in the financial and numerical strength of the church. In July, 1861, the reliable income of the society had fallen to \$400 a year, and six months' salary was due the pastor. Some of the former members had removed from the city, and others had been overtaken with financial reverses. Under these circumstances, Mr. Conant tendered his resignation to take effect the first Sunday in July, 1861. The Civil war had now begun, and Mr. Conant enlisted in his country's service immediately after his resignation. He went to the front as a chaplain in the Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. At Nashville, Tenn., February 8, 1863, Mr. Conant passed from earth to "bathe his weary soul in seas of heavenly rest." His death was due to exposure and over-exertion at the battle of Murfreesboro. His death was universally lamented. His remains were buried at Geneva, and Rev. Robert Collyer, then of Chicago, preached the funeral discourse. Dr. Collyer subsequently wrote a biography of Mr. Conant, with the title, "A Man in Earnest."

After Mr. Conant's resignation, services were maintained with some regularity, but the church gradually declined. Fred May Holland began pastoral labors January 4, 1863. Differences arose. The conservative element became dissatisfied with the pastor on account of his radical or "Parkerite" tendencies. Mr. Holland was succeeded by William G. Nowell, who was ordained April 14, 1864. Mr. Nowell left the church in June, 1865. The last pastor was Rev. D. M. Reed, a very scholarly gentleman. Mr. Reed wished some recognition of his denomination in the name of the church. In accordance with his request, the name was changed to the United Unitarian and Universalist church. The name, however, in legal matters was simply Unitarian. The church was subsequently sold, and in 1890 the proceeds were divided pro rata among the original subscribers. The late Melancthon Starr was known to have contributed \$4,000. Many of the members of the church united with the Church of the Christian Union, and others became identified with the Second Congregational church.

UNITED EVANGELICAL.

On April 1, 1907, Rev. J. W. Davis was sent to Rockford by the Evangelical Association with a view to founding a church. This event was realized July 24 of the same year with eleven members. Mr. Davis was the first pastor of the United Evangelical Church and remained four years. The chapel was ready for use January 12, 1908, and an attractive church was dedicated November 23, 1909. Mr. Davis served the full time allowed by the church and was succeeded by Rev. E. K. Hershey, who also remained four years. The present pastor is Rev. J. G. Fidler, who came in 1915. The membership is 125. A parsonage was purchased in 1910.

UNIVERSALIST.

The Unitarian church did not at first include all the adherents of a liberal Christian faith. At a meeting held in the brick schoolhouse, in East Rockford, April 24, 1841, a Universalist church was organized by the election of Daniel S. Haight, Ezra Dorman, and Thomas Thatcher as trustees. This election was recorded in the recorder's office, as provided by law. It is not probable that the official records of this church have been preserved. It is known, however, that preaching services were held at the courthouse on the East side, and at the schoolhouse a portion of the time during the next ensuing few months. In 1841 the Universalists were sufficiently strong to consider the erection of a house of worship. In those days the citizens regarded any church, of whatever name, as a factor in promoting the general welfare of the village. Hence the name of a generous, public-spirited citizen would be found among the contributors to the support of liberal and orthodox churches alike. The original subscription list for the Universalist church, which is still extant, is an interesting document. Mr. Haight gave a lot which he valued at \$100; the same amount in carpenter's and joiner's work; "forty-two sleepers in my wood-lot near Rockford, seventeen feet long, at three cents per foot, twenty-one dollars and forty-two cents;" and \$50 in money. Almost the entire subscriptions are in work or material.

On Thursday, July 22, 1841, the corner-stone of the Universalist church was laid on a site

near the East side public square. The large assemblage included people of other denominations. Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Van Alstine, and a discourse was delivered by Rev. Seth Barnes. This structure was never completed. All the original supporters of this project are gone; and not even tradition has given the cause for its sudden abandonment.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Salvation Army and the Volunteers of America have done a splendid work. The American Bible Students' Association has maintained regular services since 1897.

Quite a number of churches, organized from time to time, have passed out of existence entirely, or have been merged into other organizations.

The Seventh Day Adventist faith has a small following. There are two Spiritualistic societies, a few Swedenborgians, Mormons and Dowieites. Calvary Chapel was erected in 1889 on Kilburn avenue as a result of the labors of Rev. S. L. Conde. He was succeeded by Rev. T. J. Hunter and Rev. George Bernreuter. It was not an inviting field and the movement failed.

THE BECKMANITES.

No age or country has been free from religious fanaticism. Winnebago County shared this common experience, and was for a time the home of a strange sect which, though small in numbers, was of nation-wide notoriety. It was not a native product, however, but an importation from a neighboring county. In 1876 Rev. J. C. Beekman became pastor of the Congregational church at Byron, in Ogle County. A daughter graduated from Rockford Seminary in 1878, and is now living in Pennsylvania. In 1877 the pastor's wife, Mrs. Dora Beekman, became possessed by religious vagaries. One of these was that Christ at his second coming had become re-incarnated in her. Mrs. Beekman went to Alpena, Mich., where George Jacob Schweinfurth, who was then pastor of a Methodist church, became one of her converts, and accompanied her on her return to Byron. Mrs. Beekman died in April, 1883, and her followers confidently expected her to arise from the dead on the third day. Her failure to do so did not weaken the faith of her disciples, and her mantle of leadership fell on Schweinfurth.

The sect was known as the "Church of the Redeemed," or the "Church Triumphant."

In 1882 the Weldon farm, six miles southwest of Rockford, became the home of the community, which at one time numbered sixty persons. A house of worship was established, and Spencer Weldon transferred his farm of 500 acres to Schweinfurth, who in 1887, deeded it back to its former owner.

In February, 1887, there were 300 followers. The church at Byron had thirty members. There were also seven other congregations, in the following cities: Chicago; Alpena, Mich.; St. Charles, Minn.; East Paw Paw, Ill.; Kansas City; Buena Vista, Colo., and Plum River, Ill.

For a time after the death of Mrs. Beekman, Schweinfurth professed faith in her as the Christ. Later, however, his followers ascribed to him the real Messiahship, and implicitly obeyed his will. The community attracted the attention of the curious, and pilgrimages were made from great distances. Schweinfurth was continually under fire, and charges of immorality were finally preferred against him. Nothing was ever legally proven, and the grand jury, in October, 1890, completely exonerated him. Schweinfurth renounced the cult in 1900, and his following disintegrated. He removed to Rockford and engaged in real estate business, and then went to Chicago, where he subsequently died in utter obscurity, succumbing to typhoid fever July 20, 1910, and it was not until two months later that his passing was known to his former followers in Rockford. Was he a deliberate imposter or a self-deceived fanatic? Perhaps it is beyond human ken to answer the question.

CHAPTER XXI.

MILITARY HISTORY.

THE CIVIL WAR—ITS BEGINNING—SOUTH CAROLINA LEADS IN SECESSION—BOMBARDMENT OF FORT SUMTER—ROCKFORD'S FIRST WAR SERMONS—PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S PROCLAMATION—THE ROCKFORD ZOUAVES—VANGUARD OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY SOLDIERS—FIRST DEATH—THE ROCKFORD RIFLES—KETCHESON'S COMPANY—BIOGRAPHY

OF COLONEL ELLSWORTH—BISHOP SIMPSON—ELEVENTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY—THE ELLIS RIFLES—FIFTEENTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY—FUNERAL OF COL. ELLIS—WINNEBAGO AT SHILOH—FORTY-FOURTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY—FORTY-FIFTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY—FIRST SOLDIER OF COUNTY KILLED IN BATTLE—DEATH OF COLONEL SMITH—FIFTY-SECOND ILLINOIS INFANTRY—FIFTY-FIFTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY—VOLUNTEERS FOR THREE MONTHS' SERVICE—THE ROCKFORD CITY GUARDS—SIXTY-SEVENTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY—SEVENTY-FOURTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY—THE MULLIGAN GUARDS—NINETIETH ILLINOIS INFANTRY—EIGHTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY—THE NAVAL SERVICE—A SPARTAN MOTHER—TRIBUTE TO A NOBLE WOMAN—SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY—COUNTY WAR APPROPRIATIONS—WAR BOUNTIES—COST OF THE WAR—WINNEBAGO EXCEEDED ITS QUOTA OF VOLUNTEERS—PRISONERS OF WAR—GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC—NEVIUS POST—COMMANDERS SINCE 1866—STATE ENCAMPMENTS AT ROCKFORD—TRIBUTE TO THOMAS G. LAWLER—ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN—THE RIFLES—THE GRAYS—THEIR ORGANIZATION AS MILITIA—BELONG TO THIRD REGIMENT I. N. G.—VETERAN CORPS INFANTRY—OTHER ORGANIZATIONS—PASSING OF AN OLD SOLDIER—SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME—MEMORIAL ORATORS—ROCKFORD'S ENTERPRISE AND LIBERALITY—OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY—MEMORIAL HALL AT ROCKFORD—THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR—WINNEBAGO RESPONDED PATRIOTICALLY—THIRD ILLINOIS REGIMENT—SIXTH INFANTRY—SEVENTH INFANTRY—EIGHTH INFANTRY—THIRD NEBRASKA INFANTRY—FIRST U. S. VOLUNTEER INFANTRY—FORTIETH WISCONSIN INFANTRY—FIFTY-FIRST IOWA INFANTRY—FIFTH WISCONSIN ARTILLERY—THIRD MISSOURI CAVALRY—FIRST U. S. ENGINEERS—SECOND U. S. V. ENGINEERS—NUMBER OF SOLDIERS BURIED AT ROCKFORD.

THE CIVIL WAR.

As soon as the election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency of the United States was definitely ascertained, the legislature of South Carolina summoned a sovereign convention of the people of that state, which met December 17, 1860. Three days later this convention adopted an ordinance of secession, which declared the state no longer a member of the Union. Mississippi seceded January 9, 1861; Florida, January 10; Alabama, January 11; Georgia, January 19; Louisiana, January 26; and Texas, Febru-

ary 1, 1861. The forts, arsenals and other federal property within the limits of these states were seized by the authorities thereof, with the exceptions of Forts Moultrie and Sumter. Delegates from the seceding states met at Montgomery, Ala., February 4, 1861, and proceeded at once to organize a new republic, with the name of the Confederate States of America, and on February 8 a provisional government was declared, with Jefferson Davis as president. Governor Pickens, of South Carolina, on April 8, 1861, was notified by the general government of its intention to relieve Fort Sumter at all hazards. Governor Pickens at once informed General Beauregard of this official notification, and the news was sent by him to the Confederate government at Montgomery. Its secretary of war thereupon ordered General Beauregard, commander of the Confederate forces at Charleston to demand the immediate surrender of Fort Sumter.

On April 12, 1861, the Confederate batteries opened fire upon the fort. The bombardment lasted thirty-two hours. Late in the afternoon of the 13th, Major Anderson, in command of the fort, agreed to capitulate, and the firing ceased. On the morning of Sunday, April 14, Fort Sumter was surrendered to the Confederate forces, and Major Anderson and his garrison sailed at once for New York.

ROCKFORD'S FIRST WAR SERMON.

To the late Dr. Thomas Kerr belongs the honor of preaching the first war sermon in Rockford. He was then pastor of the First Baptist Church. April 14 the startling news was received that Sumter had fallen. It was one of the critical moments in the nation's life. Under its solemn inspiration Dr. Kerr preached an impressive, patriotic discourse Sunday afternoon, in the Baptist Church. For the first time in the history of Rockford the American flag graced the sanctuary of the God of battles. It was a symbol of the true union of church and state. But it was then an innovation. Public worship was then of the "churchly" sort. Questions of the day had not been discussed in the pulpit. The Civil War made the services of the church more practical and less theological. The pendulum has never swung back.

On Sunday afternoon, April 28, Dr. Kerr preached another stirring war sermon of great

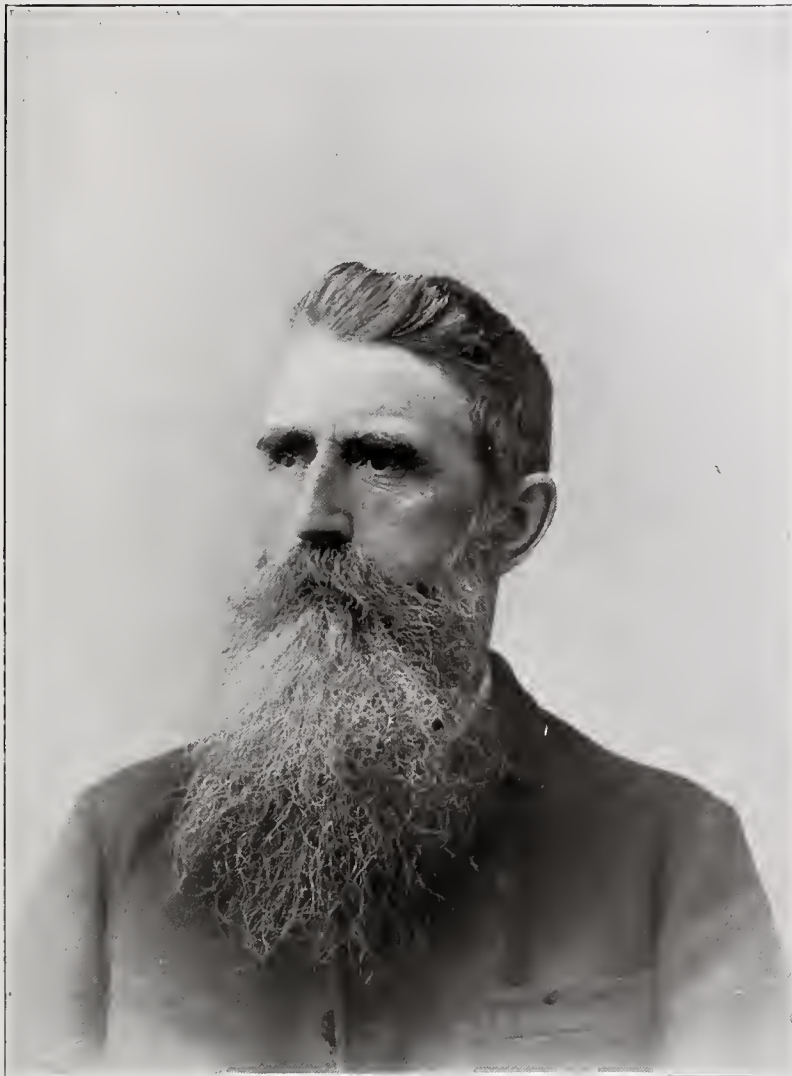
power. None of Dr. Kerr's local contemporaries in the ministry are now living. The hearts moved by the eloquence of that hour have ceased to beat. The aged preacher himself was almost the last survivor of that historic day.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S PROCLAMATION.

On Monday morning, April 15, 1861, President Lincoln issued a proclamation calling for 75,000 volunteers to "subdue combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, and to cause the laws to be duly executed." On the same day a dispatch was received at Springfield, stating that the quota of Illinois under the president's call was six regiments of militia. Governor Yates thereupon issued a proclamation convening the legislature in special session, April 23, for the purpose of putting the state upon a more effective war footing. The attack upon Sumter obliterated all party lines in Winnebago County, and friends and opponents of the administration sprang to arms to defend the government from the assaults of traitors. It is said that when Cadmus of old needed men he sowed dragons' teeth, and forthwith from the ground came warriors armed for battle. So, when Treason threw down the gauntlet, the loyal legions of Freedom accepted the game of battle.

THE ROCKFORD ZOUAVES.

The war record of Winnebago County has never been fully written, and no complete history can be assured in the future. Owing to failures to make proper returns at Springfield, even the adjutant-general's reports are only approximately correct. The late General Fuller did much to complete the records, but he could not achieve the impossible. Some men enlisted in regiments organized in other states, and in many instances credit was not properly given. The scope of this work does not admit a full treatment of even the available sources of information, but the brief outline is believed to be correct. The first war mass meeting held at Rockford was on April 24, 1861, in answer to the call of a citizens' committee, consisting of E. F. W. Ellis, Selden M. Church, and L. F. Warner, for the purpose of considering the state of the country. Judge Church was called to the chair, leading citizens made speeches and great enthusiasm prevailed.



OGDEN HANCE

Ten days after the fall of Sumner the first company of Rockford volunteers marched to the front to the "wild, grand music of war." They bore the name of the Rockford Zouaves. The story of their origin may be briefly noted. During the Lincoln campaign a "Wide-Awake" marching club was organized, in command of Captain Garrett L. Nevius. When the presidential campaign was over they were reluctant to abandon the organization, and when Captain Nevius proposed a military company it met with general favor. A meeting was held December 26, 1860, at the photograph gallery of Barnes, Nevius & Company, when preliminary steps were taken, and January 3, 1861, the Rockford Zouaves were formally organized. Garrett L. Nevius was chosen captain; R. A. Bird, first lieutenant; W. D. E. Andrus, second lieutenant; R. S. Norman, ensign; F. F. Peats, orderly sergeant; H. H. Dean, second sergeant; J. H. Manny, third sergeant; C. B. Hull, fourth sergeant; Randolph D. Hobart, first corporal; E. Lugin, second corporal; Thomas Anyon, third corporal; O. C. Towne, fourth corporal; I. S. Hyatt, secretary, and C. T. Jellerson, treasurer. Meetings for drill were held and on January 17, 1861, resolutions were adopted to the effect that they should hold themselves in readiness to respond to any possible call for troops. In February the South Rockford Band, consisting of F. M. Needham and J. A. Hobart, drummers, and C. H. Marsh, fifer, was admitted to membership, with the understanding that they were to have no more privileges than any of the other members.

By April 16 the company had received orders to report at Springfield. A subscription paper had been circulated to raise money to furnish uniforms for the Zouaves, and by April 20 \$1,200 had been pledged, with the promise of more if it should be needed. Men, women and children bent their efforts toward getting the Zouaves in shape for service. The women sent their sewing machines up to Concert Hall, and gathered there to make the uniforms out of bolts of blue flannel secured as donations from the merchants and with money subscribed by citizens. Women worked as they had never worked before, willingly, yet reluctantly, tearfully, and yet cheerfully, as each tried to encourage the other and remove the fears that they were preparing for a final parting from their loved ones. The citizens were a Sunday-keeping people then,

perhaps more so than now, but it was resolved that the work justified it, and the women labored all that bright and beautiful day in early spring. On April 24, 1861, the Rockford Zouaves left Rockford for the capital of the state. Business was generally suspended, and thousands of people were at the train to bid them farewell.

The Zouaves first enlisted for three months' service, and became Company D, of the Eleventh Illinois Infantry. This company, with two recruits in the following June, and one member of the noncommissioned regimental staff, numbered exactly 100 men. They were the vanguard of the army furnished by Winnebago County. They belong to the first roll of honor, and for this reason their names are given in full as follows: Captain, Garrett L. Nevius; first lieutenant, Rhendyne A. Bird; second lieutenant, William D. E. Andrus; first sergeant, Henry H. Dean; sergeants, Randolph D. Hobart, James H. Manny, Charles B. Hull; corporals, Edward F. Lugin, Thomas Anyon, Orin C. Towne, Frederick Brown; musicians, John A. Hobart, Mills F. Needham; privates, Charles E. Arnold, William Atkins, Leander Bauder, Alfred Barker, Thomas J. Bryan, David O. Butolph, Henry L. Brown, John Beatson, Alpheus D. Brown, Alpheus M. Blakesley, George C. Brown, Benjamin Bentson, Thomas Beddoes, Thomas W. Cole, Orin W. Cram, Andrew Clark, Bradford A. Champlain, Henry W. Cooling, Ervin E. Clark, William W. Clark, Richard A. Compton, Philip Crooker, Charles D. Clark, George W. Darling, George E. Dolphin, Elisha S. Daggett, Charles L. Dunham, John L. Davis, Alexander N. Davis, Charles B. Eaton, Jud A. Ellison, John E. Elliott, Peter Engalls, William D. Frost, Almond Gifford, Harvey Hemenway, Derastus Holmes, Simon Hosmer, Charles Hawkinson, Iereon R. Hest, Frederick I. Horsman, George J. Hitchcock, Herrington Love, Daniel E. Lee, Neri R. Mosher, George W. Maguire, John McGuire, Edward E. Magee, J. George Manlove, George H. Manchester, William L. Mesick, Charles Pittinger, Charles N. Price, Levi Pitney, Frederick L. Posson, Luman G. Pierce, Floyd B. Penoyer, Rudolph W. Peake, William M. Putnam, Charles N. Roberts, Walter Reckard, Shepard P. Strunk, Louis Schlunt, Joseph R. Shields, Erastus T. Stevens, William H. Skeed, Henry P. Strong, Ambrose Stearns, J. Murray Southgate, Christo-

pher C. Shank, James M. Stevens, Thomas A. Stevens, Edward S. Smith, Edwin Swift, Edward P. Thomas, Riley Van Patten, John Wagner, Rufus L. Whitney, John W. Warfield, John W. Warner, William Winter, George Wilkin, William G. D. Weed, Francis B. Wakeman; recruits, Marion E. Delany, Louis Houston. Twenty members of the Zouaves were subsequently sent home from Springfield, under an army regulation that companies must not exceed ninety-seven men, including officers. Some of these promptly enlisted in other companies.

The first soldier from Rockford to die for his country in the Civil war was one of the first Zouave volunteers, Neri R. Mosher, who died June 5, 1861, of typhoid fever, at Camp Hardin, near Villa Ridge, Ill., and his remains were sent to Rockford for interment.

KETCHESON'S COMPANY.

Daniel O. Ketcheson was among the first to respond to the call of his country. He organized a company called the Rockford Rifles. By reason of some confusion and embarrassment, however, at Springfield, he failed to get into the service of his own state, and the company at once disbanded. A new muster roll was immediately opened and another company formed. It went into camp at the fair grounds, where it took a full course of drill, and on May 31, Captain Ketcheson's company left Rockford for St. Louis, where it was accepted as Company I, of the Sixth Missouri Regiment, under command of Frank Blair. Captain Ketcheson died in Rockford April 28, 1864. He fought bravely at Corinth, Vicksburg, Champions Hills, Arkansas Post, Mission Ridge and Chattanooga, and at Vicksburg and Arkansas Post he led charges and cheered his men to the very muzzles of the guns of the enemy.

In July, 1861, Rev. A. H. Conant, pastor of the Unitarian Church, resigned, and a few weeks later he enlisted as a chaplain in the Nineteenth Illinois Infantry. Only one other citizen of Winnebago County is known to have entered the service with this regiment, Colonel Thomas G. Lawler. Both these names, however, in the adjutant-general's report, are credited to Chicago. Chaplain Conant died at Nashville, February 8, 1863. His death was due to exposure and exertion at the battle of Murfreesboro.

COL. EPHRAIM ELMER ELLSWORTH.

Col. Ephraim Elmer Ellsworth is one of the most historic figures of the early war period. He was a national character, yet there were reasons why local interest attaches to his memory, and to the older residents who had known him he still seems as one of their own heroic boys. Colonel Ellsworth was born at Mechanicsville, N. Y., April 23, 1837. After a brief mercantile career in Troy and New York, he removed to Chicago at an early age, where he became a solicitor of patents. In 1858 he was engaged as drillmaster for the old Rockford City Greys, an independent military company, which had been organized two years before. Under his instructions the company attained a high degree of proficiency. The Rockford Register of June 1, 1861, in editorially commenting upon his death, said of this brilliant military leader: "Although young, he had proven himself to be surpassed by no man in the land as a teacher of military rules and drill, and, in fact, was the father of the Zouave drill in this country."

Colonel Ellsworth was a splendid type of young manhood. He was received as a social lion by the young people of Rockford. He was frequently a guest at the home of Charles H. Spafford, and at the time of his death he was betrothed to his elder daughter, who subsequently married Charles S. Brett.

In 1860 Colonel Ellsworth organized a company of Zouaves in Chicago, and the following year he accompanied President Lincoln to Washington. On May 24, 1861, upon seeing a Confederate flag floating from a hotel in Alexandria, Va., he rushed to the roof and tore it down. On his return from the roof he was met and shot dead by Jackson, the owner, who, in turn, was killed by one of Ellsworth's men, Frank E. Brownell. Colonel Ellsworth's blood was the first shed in the civil conflict. The nation mourned his loss as of the fairest of the flower of her chivalry. The New York World paid him this noble tribute: "He was a hero in the fairest and most captivating sense of the word. He was as handsome as Murat and as brave as Ney. He possessed to a degree that winning power over men by which, through all history, great captains and leaders have been distinguished. He was a commander by the imperial right of birth." Colonel Ellsworth's

funeral was held in the east room of the White House. Notable among the mourners was Gen. Winfield Scott, dressed in the full uniform of his high position, and also were gathered at his bier the great ones of the land, President Lincoln, Simon Cameron, William H. Seward, Commander Paulding, of the navy, Nathaniel P. Banks, and other men high in the councils of the nation. On June 2 Rev. H. M. Goodwin preached a memorial service on the death of Colonel Ellsworth in the Second Congregational Church, Rockford, and similar services were held in Chicago.

BISHOP SIMPSON.

Bishop Simpson was one of the greatest American preachers. His war sermons in Rockford are, therefore, a matter of historic interest. Sunday, June 30, 1861, the three Methodist churches of the city united in a service in Metropolitan Hall. The bishop's sermon was of great power.

In the afternoon a union Methodist meeting was held in the Second Church, later known as the Court Street Church, when Bishop Simpson addressed the children. In the evening, upon the request of citizens, he preached an eloquent discourse in the Second Congregational Church, on "The Present Crisis."

ELEVENTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

The Eleventh Illinois Infantry took an active part in the Vicksburg campaign. The total enlistment in this regiment from Winnebago County was 133. Garrett L. Nevius had entered the service as captain of Company D, but he rose rapidly, was promoted major, lieutenant-colonel and finally colonel of his regiment. Colonel Nevius was killed in the charge of Ransom's Brigade on the enemy's works at Vicksburg, May 22, 1863, while on foot, at the head of his regiment, within ten rods of the line of entrenchments. He was in the act of waving his sword and urging his men forward, when the fatal bullet struck him in the head, crashing through his brain, killing him instantly. His dying words were: "Forward, my brave Eleventh!" His body was recovered and placed in charge of Captain W. D. E. Andrus, who, with a guard of ten men, immediately started to convey it to Rockford, arriv-

ing on June 3, 1863. The body lay in state at the courthouse, where memorial services were held. All business in the city was suspended. The meeting was called to order by the war mayor, Charles Williams. Dr. Thomas Kerr pronounced an eloquent eulogy. The remains were taken, with military escort, to the Northwestern depot, and forwarded to the home of his mother at Lodi, Seneca County, N. Y.

As a military man Colonel Nevius had won an enviable reputation. He possessed superior abilities. He was careful of his men, cool, well posted, sound in judgment, and brave almost to the point of recklessness. He led his men where duty called, and they were quick to follow. Naturally retiring and unassuming in private life, thus, perhaps, he was not so widely known as others of less ability for leadership, but those who knew him best learned to respect him for his high moral character and social worth. Colonel Nevius was only twenty-six years of age. He lived in deeds, and not in years. Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R., is named after him.

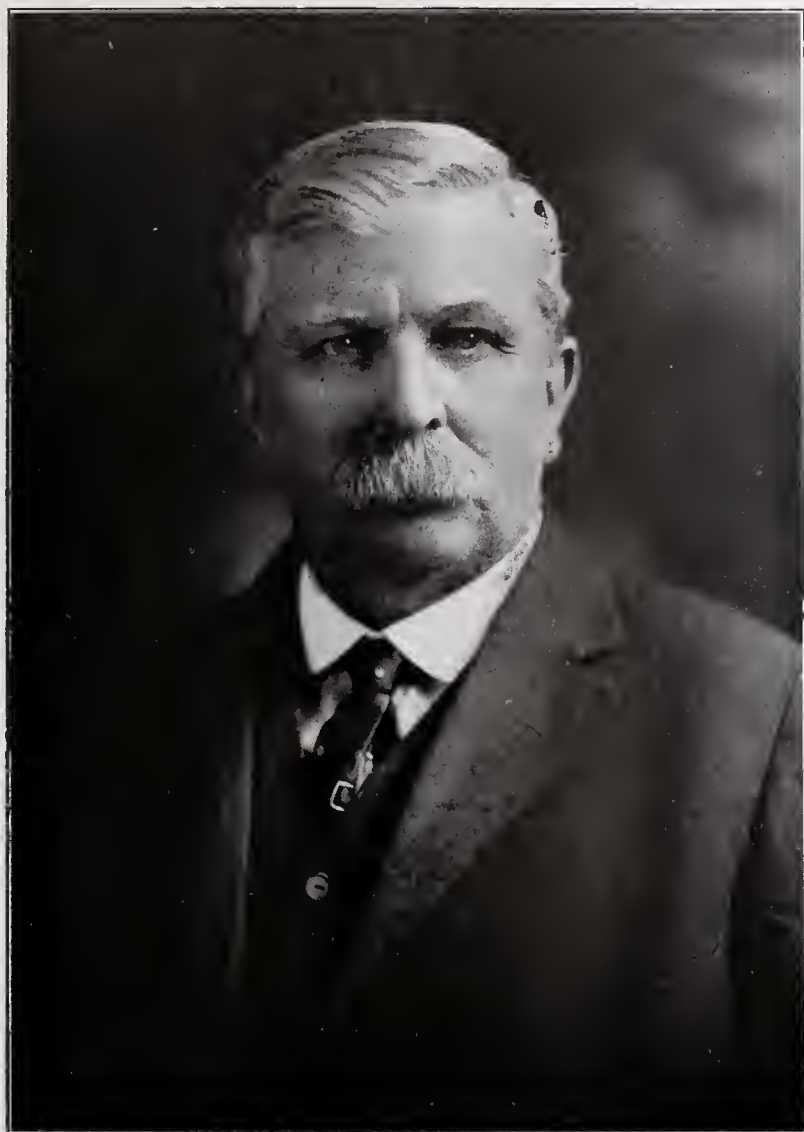
After three months of service, the Rockford Zouaves returned to Rockford. Many of them promptly re-enlisted, and eight days later, August 16, they again went to the front. Captain W. D. E. Andrus was detailed as recruiting officer, and it was not until November 13 that the ranks were filled, when the recruits joined the company at Bird's Point. The Rockford City Band entered service with the Zouaves and became a part of the Eleventh Regiment. The following named musicians constituted the regimental band: M. H. Baldwin, Robert Alchin, Rufus B. Artz, Prolia Artz, Charles B. Eaton (No. 1), Charles B. Eaton (No. 2), James Eaton, Augustus Dedrickson, Thomas Gray, Charles W. Halcum, Charles P. Henrick, Daniel Kipp, Isaac Larue, Horace Nettleton, John P. Nettleton, Henry C. Sullivan. The total number of men enrolled in Company D of the Eleventh Regiment, including recruits for the three years, was 104.

FIFTEENTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

The Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry was raised under the "ten regiment act," in the First Congressional District. Company A was from McHenry County; Company B, Boone County; Company C, Winnebago County; Com-

pany D, McHenry County; Company G, Stephenson County; Company H, Ogle County; Company I, Lake County, and Company K, from Carroll County. The regiment was organized at Freeport, Ill., and mustered into the United States service on the 24th day of May, 1861, as one of the first regiments from the state sworn into the United States service, for the three years' service. After electing officers, organizing and drilling for some time, the regiment proceeded to Alton, and remained there six weeks for instruction; in July the regiment left Alton by steamboat for St. Charles, Mo., thence by rail to Mexico, Mo., where it remained for a time in company with the Twenty-first Illinois Infantry, commanded by Col. U. S. Grant. A part of the regiment went from Mexico to Fulton, and thence to the Missouri River, and thence by steamer to Jefferson Barracks; the other part to Hannibal, Mo., and thence by steamer to Jefferson Barracks. The regiment then moved by rail to Rolla, Mo., where it arrived in time to cover General Sigel's retreat from Wilson's Creek. After building one or two forts the regiment was ordered to Tipton, Mo., and thence became attached to General Fremont's army, and marched under General Hunter to Springfield, Mo.; a short time after returned to Tipton, then went to Sedalia. It assisted in the capture of 1,300 of the enemy a few miles from the latter place. The regiment then marched to Ottumville, Mo., and went into winter quarters December 26, 1861. The winter was cold and the snow deep, and the first winter's experience in tents was a very severe one. On February 1, 1861, the regiment marched to Jefferson City, thence by rail reached St. Louis, where it embarked on transports for Fort Donelson, and arrived to take part in the surrender. The regiment was then assigned to General S. A. Hurlbut's "Fighting Fourth Division," and marched to Fort Henry, then went by boat to Pittsburg Landing. It was one of the first regiments that landed on that historic battleground. At the battle of Shiloh, on the 6th of April, the regiment was in the first line of battle, formed by Hurlbut's Division, and was in the brigade commanded by General C. Veach. Hardly had the brigade taken position, when a Confederate column, massed three lines deep, deployed from the woods on the left front, and with a yell that echoed through the surrounding forest, charged on in double-quick. The

Fifteenth was flanked by the Fifty-third Ohio, on the right. At the first fire of the enemy the Buckeyes broke and ran, and the enemy were not only in front of the Fifteenth Regiment, but on both flanks in a very short time. Nevertheless for more than one hour the regiment held its position and fought as gallantly as any troops could fight in the terrible struggle, called by the Confederates the "Hornet's Nest," and disputed inch by inch the advance and the incessant attacks of the best troops in the Confederate service. Owing to the want of support, the regiment was compelled to withdraw and take up a new position. In five minutes after the regiment formed its first line, the field officers, Lieutenant-Colonel E. F. W. Ellis and Major William R. Goddard, Captains Holder Brownell and Harley Wayne and Lieutenant John W. Peterbaugh, were killed, and Captain Adam Nase lost a leg and was taken prisoner. Captain Thomas J. Turner was absent, and the command of the regiment devolved upon Captain L. D. Kelly and George C. Rogers, assisted by Adjutant Charles F. Barber. As soon as a new line was formed (the Fourteenth Illinois on the left of the Fifteenth), when the enemy had approached sufficiently near, these two regiments, acting as one man, delivered a rapid, well aimed and destructive fire full into the massed ranks of the enemy. At the second attack these two regiments received the first shock, and for three hours were in that awful gap, without giving ground, where the Confederates sacrificed more than two thousand as brave men as ever trod the battle-field, in the unavailing effort to drive them from their position. This baptism of blood cemented the two regiments, and they were always afterward brigaded and served together during the remainder of the war, and discharged at the same time and place. The Fifteenth was in the hottest of the fight both days of the bloody battle, and not a man faltered in his duty or failed to perform all that was required of him. The two regiments that were in the final charge on the 7th, led by General Grant in person, were the Fourteenth, commanded by Col. Cyrus Hall, and the Fifteenth Illinois, commanded by Capt. George C. Rogers. This detachment moved forward, and when within range delivered their fire, and with fixed bayonets charged at double-quick. The raking fire, however, had done its work. The Confederate army had fled. The Fifteenth regi-



Charles H. Herbert

ment lost in this engagement 250 men killed and wounded, and there are more of the "known dead" of this regiment buried in the National Cemetery at Pittsburg Landing, than of any other regiment, and many died of wounds in hospitals at home.

E. F. W. Ellis was one of the first citizens of Rockford to become inspired with an ardent military spirit, which found its expression in the organization of a company, the Ellis Rifles, which he tendered to the governor. The enrollment began April 24, 1861, and the ranks were filled in less than one week. Mr. Ellis was chosen captain; Holder Brownell, first lieutenant; Cyrenius C. Clark, second lieutenant. On May 11 the Rifles went into camp at Freeport, and were subsequently known as Company C, of the Fifteenth Infantry, under command of Colonel Thomas J. Turner. The total enrollment of Company C, including veterans and recruits, was ninety-three men. Volunteers from Winnebago enlisted in other companies of the Fifteenth. The total enrollment of this regiment from Winnebago County, including field and staff, non-commissioned staff, privates, veterans, recruits and unclassified recruits, was 125 men. The adjutant's report also gives the names of fifteen volunteers from this county in the reorganized Fifteenth regiment.

FUNERAL OF COLONEL ELLIS.

Col. Ellis' remains were brought to the city April 20, on a special train. On Monday they lay in state at the courthouse. The room was draped in the national colors, and underneath lay all that was mortal of the patriot hero, inclosed in a metallic burial case, upon which was placed his sword and belt.

The funeral was held on Tuesday in the Second Congregational Church, the largest auditorium then in the city. Two thousand people were in attendance. Rev. J. H. Vincent, pastor of the Court Street Church, now Bishop Vincent, preached the funeral sermon. His text was Zachariah XIII: 8-9: "And it shall come to pass that in all the land, saith the Lord, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and I will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried; they shall call on my name, and I will hear them; I will say, It is my people; and

they shall say, the Lord is my God." Masonic services at the grave were in charge of L. F. Warner, master of Star in the East lodge.

Winnebago County had six companies in the battle of Shiloh. Company C lost, besides Colonel Ellis, Captain H. Brownell, W. H. Brown, William Caughey, J. E. Vance and Asabel Douglas; Company D, of the Eleventh, lost Charles Hawkinson and Dennis Manchester. Those killed in Company G, of the Forty-fifth, were Corporal McNeilage, James Watterson, Conard LaGrange, George Henry. The killed in Company E, of the Fifty-second, were Patrick Cunningham and Charles P. Roch. The company was in six engagements during the first day's fight. Company C, of the Fifty-fifth, lost Lieutenant Theodore Hodges, Corporal Daniel Sullivan, Sergeant Miron Ganoung, Brageila Crowell, Nathan Knapp and O. Helgersen. All of these companies suffered losses in wounded. J. C. Manlove, Jr., and Andrew Clark, who had entered Waterhouse's Battery, after three months' service with the Zouaves, were both wounded in the shoulder.

FORTY-FOURTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

J. T. Hobart raised a company in August, 1861, which became Company G, of the Forty-fourth Infantry, known as the Northwestern Rifles regiment. The number of enlistments in this company from Winnebago County for the entire war period, including recruits, was 124. There were also in this regiment, on its field and staff, non-commissioned staff, and recruits in Company F, ten volunteers from this county. This regiment was mustered into the service in September, 1861.

In response to appeals made at war meetings, many attempts were made, more or less successful, to raise companies in the various townships of the county. Captain S. Whitmeyer organized the Durand Guards, and a company was enrolled in Cherry Valley, which, for some reason, was not accepted. These volunteers found their way into the service as members of other companies. Recruiting officers also secured volunteers in the interest of various regiments. Among these were Lieutenants E. H. Brown and D. H. Gile, of Chicago, who were in Rockford in the interest of Company A, of the Yates Phalanx.

FORTY-FIFTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

In the month of February, 1863, the Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry moved with Grant's army on transports down the Mississippi River from Memphis, to take part in the Vicksburg campaign. Stops were made at Lake Providence, Vista Plantation and Milliken's Bend. At Milliken's Bend volunteers were called for to run the batteries with transports at Vicksburg. The entire regiment, officers and men, volunteered for this duty. The matter was decided by making a detail of the quota assigned to the Forty-fifth. The detail comprised the crew which manned the steamer *Anglo-Saxon*, and took her safely through, loaded with a full cargo of commissary stores.

In August, 1861, Melancthon Smith issued a stirring appeal for volunteers, quoting the last words of General Lyon, "Come on, brave men!" Mr. Smith had only a few months before received the appointment of postmaster of Rockford, and it required not a little patriotism to leave this position for the hardships of war. Mr. Smith had been a member of the old Rockford City Greys, which had been drilled by Colonel Ellsworth, and he was thus not entirely without military experience. September 17 an election of officers was held, with the following result: Captain, Melancthon Smith; first lieutenant, Robert P. Sealy; second lieutenant, D. W. Grippen. On September 22 the company left Rockford for Camp Washburne, at Galena. It was mustered into the service as Company G, of the Forty-fifth regiment, known as the Washburne Lead-Mine regiment, in command of Colonel John E. Smith. The total number of enlistments in Company G from Winnebago County, including veterans, recruits and drafted and substitute recruits, was 124, and the total number of enlistments was 231 in the Forty-fifth regiment from Winnebago County.

John Travis, a member of the Rifles, was the first soldier from Winnebago County killed in battle. He lost his life at the battle of Fort Donelson, in February, 1862. His body was recovered by Israel Sovereign, and was brought home for burial. There were four companies from this county on that field of carnage: The Rockford Rifles and the Cherry Valley company, in the Forty-fifth; the Zouaves, in the Eleventh, and Captain Boyd's company, in the Fifty-second. The first of May, 1863, found the

Forty-fifth on the east bend of the Mississippi at Bruinsburg, below Vicksburg, and the same day started with General Grant's army on the famous campaign which ended in the capture of Vicksburg. The regiment participated in all the battles of the campaign, forming part of Logan's Division. The position of the Forty-fifth during the siege of Vicksburg was immediately at the White House, on the Jackson road, in front of the Confederate stronghold, Fort Hill, regarded as the key to the fortress. The Forty-fifth took part in three charges against the enemy's works, on the 19th and 22d of May and the 24th of June. On the 22d Major Luther H. Cowan was instantly killed. About a month was occupied in running a gap and digging a mine under Fort Hill, and on June 25, the mine having been charged, the match was applied. The Forty-fifth was selected as the storming party after the breach should be made. Immediately after the explosion the regiment rushed into the crater, but was met with a murderous fire from the enemy, who was still protected by an embankment of about three feet in width, which had been thrown up as an inner line in case the outer works should be demolished. The loss to the Forty-fifth in this charge was eighty-three officers and men killed and wounded. Among the number were Melancthon Smith, lieutenant-colonel; Leander B. Fisk, major, and a number of non-commissioned officers and men. Among the wounded was Jasper A. Maltby, colonel of the regiment. It was a bloody affair, indeed. When the city surrendered, on account of its conspicuous service during the siege, by order of General Grant, the Forty-fifth was given the advance of the Union army when it entered that stronghold, and its flag was raised upon the courthouse by Colonel William F. Strong, of General McPherson's staff, to denote the possession of the city by the Federal army.

On June 25, 1863, Colonel Smith was mortally wounded and died Sunday morning, June 28, in the thirty-sixth year of his age. His remains were brought to Rockford for burial and on the day of the funeral lay in state in front of the residence of his father-in-law, John Edwards.

Concerning Colonel Smith's patriotism, Dr. Goodwin, in preaching a memorial sermon, said: "Before deciding to enter the army, he made the question a subject of devout and earnest prayer, and the decision, when made,

was a religious consecration to the service of his country, expecting never to return, but to die on the field of battle."

FIFTY-SECOND ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

In September, 1861, Wesley Boyd organized a company, called the Winnebago Sharpshooters, of which he became captain. In October the company went into camp at Camp Geneva, and became Company E, of the Fifty-second Infantry. The total number of enlistments in this company from this county, including veterans and recruits, was ninety-eight. There was one volunteer in Company F. The regiment was organized at Geneva, Kane County, by the Hon. Isaac G. Wilson, who was for many years a judge upon the Circuit bench.

FIFTY-FIFTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

In September, 1861, Rhenodyne A. Bird organized a company with about eighty members, and September 9 they left for camp at Chicago, where they became a part of the Douglas Brigade, and were known as Company C of the Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteers. The total number of enlistments in this company from Winnebago County, including veterans and recruits, was 107 and there was one volunteer in Company D.

VOLUNTEERS FOR THREE MONTHS' SERVICE.

In June, 1862, in response to calls for volunteers for three months, two additional companies were organized and immediately entered the service at Camp Douglas in guarding Confederate prisoners. One of these companies, the Winnebago County Guards, was largely composed of volunteers from the country towns, of which H. R. Enoch was chosen captain, and James B. Kerr first lieutenant.

SIXTY-SEVENTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

There were 104 volunteers in this company, including recruits, of whom eighty-three were from Winnebago County. They were known as Company C, of the Sixty-seventh Infantry. The Rockford City Guards entered this service, with Charles B. Hull as captain. The Guards were known as Company A, of the Sixty-seventh regi-

ment. They are credited with exactly 100 men, of whom sixty-three were from this county. There were four soldiers from Winnebago on the field and staff, and the non-commissioned staff, and one private each in Companies B and H. Winnebago County contributed to this regiment in the two companies a total of 153 men. These accessions made nine full companies which Winnebago County had sent into the service, besides many enlisted in other companies and batteries.

CAMP FULLER.

On July 16, 1862, Adjutant-General Fuller issued an order establishing camps for temporary rendezvous in several cities of the state. In the latter part of the month General Fuller visited Rockford and personally selected a site north of the city. Jason Marsh was placed in command, who named the camp in honor of the man who did more than any other citizen in making a glorious military record for the commonwealth of Illinois. General Fuller was the central figure of the war power of Illinois; the forger of her thunderbolts, the splendid defender of her sons. Gen. John C. Black once said to the writer that General Fuller was a greater man than Edwin M. Stanton, President Lincoln's great war secretary; that he had Stanton's executive ability without his brutality. Camp Fuller was a camp of rendezvous for Lake, McHenry, Boone, Winnebago, Ogle, Carroll, Stephenson and Jo Daviess counties. Four regiments were in camp at Camp Fuller: the Seventy-fourth, Ninety-second, Ninety-fifth and Ninety-sixth. All the regiments soon entered the service, and January 31, 1863, the barracks were sold at auction.

SEVENTY-FOURTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

In July, 1862, President Lincoln issued a call for 300,000 volunteers. In response to war meetings held in every township in Winnebago County the military spirit became the ruling passion of the people. On July 31 the board of supervisors met in special session and offered a bounty of \$60 to each volunteer enlisting before the 25th of August, and \$40 for all subsequent enlistments previous to September 15, next following. Winnebago County again promptly did her duty, and raised eight of the

ten companies of the Seventy-fourth regiment. Company G was organized in Ogle County, and Company I in Stephenson County. The regiment was mustered into the service September 4, 1862. The first field officers were: Jason Marsh, of Rockford, colonel; James B. Kerr, of Roscoe, lieutenant-colonel; and Edward F. Dutcher, of Oregon, major. Anton Nieman, of Chicago, an officer of military education, was its first adjutant. On September 30, 1862, the regiment reported for duty at Louisville, Ky., where the Army of the Ohio, afterward known as the Army of the Cumberland, was then being organized under Gen. Don Carlos Buell. On October 1 a brigade organization was effected, and the Seventy-fourth, with the Seventy-fifth and Fifty-ninth Illinois, the Twenty-second Indiana, and the Fifth (Pinney's) Wisconsin Battery, formed the Thirtieth Brigade, Ninth Division, Fourteenth Corps. Col. Philip Sidney Post, of the Fifty-ninth Illinois, had command of the brigade, Gen. O. M. Mitchell of the division, and General Gilbert of the corps, the whole comprising, with other troops, a command under Gen. A. McD. McCook, designated the right wing. On October 24, 1862, the army, then at Bowling Green, was reorganized, under Gen. W. S. Rosecrans, and was afterward known as the Army of the Cumberland. The regiment participated in the following battles: Perryville, October 8, 1862; Stone River, December 31, 1862; Mission Ridge, November 24-25, 1863; Rocky Face, May 9, 1864; Resaca, May 14, 1864; Calhoun, May 17, 1864; Adairsville, May 18, 1864; Dallas, May 25 to June 25, 1864; Lost Mountain, June 16, 1864; Kenesaw Mountain, June 27, 1864; Peach Tree Creek, July 20, 1864; Atlanta, July 22, 1864; Jonesboro, September 1, 1864; Lovejoy, September 2, 1864; Spring Hill, November 29, 1864; Franklin, November 30, 1864; Nashville, December 15-16, 1864. Winnebago County contributed 793 volunteers to the Seventy-fourth. This was almost exactly one-quarter of the whole number of recruits raised by the county during the four years of the war. This fact made the regiment in a sense the special pride of the citizens. On June 10, 1865, the Seventy-fourth, then numbering 343 officers and men, was mustered out of the service at Nashville, Tenn., and arrived in Rockford nineteen days later. The veterans hold annual reunions, but time has thinned their ranks. In 1903 an excellent history of the

Seventy-fourth regiment was published by a committee consisting of John H. Sherratt, Hosmer P. Holland and John W. Beatson.

During the early part of the war there were eight enlistments in the Eighth Infantry, twenty in the Forty-sixth, one in the consolidated Forty-seventh, one in the Forty-eighth, one in the Forty-ninth, thirteen in the Fifty-first, three in the Fifty-fourth, two in the Sixty-ninth, and eight in the Seventy-first. There were fifty-six volunteers in Batteries A, B, E, H and I of the First Regiment Light Artillery, and twenty-one in the Second Artillery.

NINETIETH ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

Major Patrick Flynn was a representative son of Erin, who espoused the cause of his adopted country with a lover's devotion. He fought her battles with the characteristic ardor of his race. He was born in Mayo, Ireland, May 11, 1831, came to Rockford in 1858, and was engaged in mercantile pursuits until 1862, when President Lincoln issued a call for 300,000 volunteers. Major Flynn enlisted about 300 men in Winnebago, Boone and Stephenson counties. He organized the Mulligan Guards, named in honor of the famous Col. James Mulligan, of the Twenty-third Illinois, known as the Irish Brigade. The late Dean Butler, priest of St. James' Catholic church, of Rockford, was chaplain of Mulligan's Brigade. Later the major's company dropped the name of Mulligan Guards and was designated as Company A, Ninetieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and assigned to the Fifteenth Army Corps. There were in this company ninety-three volunteers from Winnebago County. There were also six enlistments from the county in other companies of the regiment.

Many years after those stirring scenes, in November, 1900, Major Flynn related his experiences in securing enlistments in the well-known Mulligan Guards. These were given in a paper read before a campfire of Nevius Post. The major said:

"On July 14, 1862, Charles L. Williams, then mayor of Rockford; Rev. J. P. Donelan, pastor of St. James' Catholic church; W. G. King, Judge Church, Hon. William Lathrop, Hon. Wait Talcott, Dr. R. P. Lane and Laurence McDonald called on me and suggested that I assist in raising an Irish company of volunteers. The idea was not displeasing to me, but,



Abram M Hoffman

having a wife, I deemed it proper to first consult her in reference to the suggestion. She shared my patriotic feelings, or, rather, I shared hers, and the result was that I soon entered heartily into the undertaking. Only a few remain of those young men who signed the muster roll at that time. They are Andrew Phinney and Hugh McMahon, of Burritt, who was said to be the youngest sergeant in the brigade. The young Irishmen of Rockford became enthusiastic in the defense of their country, and in the remarkably short period of sixteen days 140 men enlisted. One more name which I was anxious to add to the list of these young heroes is that of Joseph P. Whalen, of Argyle township, who especially distinguished himself at the battle of Missionary Ridge on November 25, 1863. He deserves special mention, being struck by rebel bullets no less than three times, and so disabled in his limbs to this day that his effort to move about is extremely painful. We expected to be attached to the Twenty-third Illinois, which had achieved a brilliant reputation in the west and in Virginia, and whose young commander was James A. Mulligan. The company was named the Mulligan Guards in his honor. On August 31 we were mustered into the service of the United States at Camp Douglas, Chicago, and became Company A, of the Ninetieth Illinois, of which Colonel O'Meara became the commanding officer. There were also volunteers which I recruited in Company I. The regiment was then detailed for a time to guard prisoners at Camp Douglas. Rumors were rife for a time that the Knights of the Golden Circle were planning an attempt to liberate the rebel prisoners under our care. The rumors were not without foundation, though the attempt was not made at that time. Had it been, the Ninetieth would have proven itself loyal to the country that sheltered its members in their exile. In those days domestic enemies, which were known as copperheads, were a source of much annoyance."

In the same paper Major Flynn vividly described the battle of Missionary Ridge. His allusion to the death of Lieut. James Conway, of Company A, breathes the fervor and eloquence of his race. Rare indeed is a soldier's death more impressively told than in these words:

"The next morning the Fifteenth Corps moved along the valley under the Lookout Mountain

range toward Chattanooga. On the morning of the 25th it was in line for the desperate struggle that day commemorates as the battle of Missionary Ridge. The regiment lost its colonel, the brave O'Meara; its lieutenant-colonel was shot through the body, and Lieut. James Conway, of Company A, of this city, was shot through the heart. When found after the sun went down, he was in a kneeling position, his sabre in his right hand, his revolver in his left, his face to the enemy and his virtuous eyes turned to heaven, as though fully satisfied of the sacred justness of the cause for which he was yielding up his life, he was anxious to meet the benignant glance of his Creator. Impressed with a knowledge of a duty nobly done, this brave young officer knelt at the shrine of infinite mercy, and while the words of hope were yet warm upon his quivering lips, his soul went forth into the presence of the Almighty Father. There 100 out of 370 heroes were beaten down in the bloody rain of rebel bullets. Being ranking officer, I took command of the Ninetieth that day."

Major Flynn served his company as captain from August, 1862, until March, 1863, when he was promoted to major and continued with his regiment until he was wounded, August 28, 1863, at the battle of Missionary Ridge. He was mustered out of service in June, 1865.

EIGHTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY.

A splendid cavalry company, organized in September, became Company M, of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry. John Austin, of Rockford, was chosen captain; A. J. Martin, first lieutenant; John Austin, of Ogle County, second lieutenant. Winnebago County contributed to this company, during the entire war period, 113 volunteers. Enlistments in other companies of this regiment, with unassigned recruits, brought the total number of enlistments in this county to 213.

THE NAVAL SERVICE.

Winnebago County contributed a few volunteers to the naval service. Volney D. Woodruff, John L. Clark, George Potter, and John A. Ferguson were members of the West Gulf Blockading Squadron. John McDermaid, now a resident of Rockford, who enlisted in an eastern

state, enjoys the distinction of having been a participant in the engagement in which the Confederate ram Albermarle was destroyed. This unique historic event occurred October 27, 1864, on Roanoke River, in North Carolina, by a detail of twelve men, under command of Colonel Cushing.

A SPARTAN MOTHER.

The story of Mrs. H. B. Merchant's devotion to her country is probably without parallel. Her husband had died several years before and she was dependent for support upon her eleven sons. When the war broke out she bade the elder ones farewell and they went away. As the need for men grew greater the younger ones enlisted until finally all of the eleven were fighting for the stars and stripes. With two exceptions they all served in Illinois regiments.

Mrs. Mary Brainard saw the hard side of war life, working many a long night over the dying soldiers, and writing the last letters home for those who were too weak to do it for themselves. Mrs. Brainard left Rockford in September of 1862, going with the Seventy-fourth Illinois volunteers as a nurse, under Colonel Marsh. In a short time she was made nurse and head matron of the hospital at Lebanon, Kentucky, where she spent the winter, and then went to the hospital at Lewisville as head nurse and matron. She spent the summer there in charge of the officers' hospital, but during the fall was taken seriously sick with malarial fever and was sent home. During the time of her nursing she was not under the Sanitary Commission, as were most of the nurses, but was in the government employ. Because of her faithful work she was awarded a pension by a special act of Congress. Mrs. Brainard died suddenly October 7, 1905.

The late Dr. Thomas Kerr was, for a time, a member of the Christian Commission, under appointment of President Lincoln. After his return from the field he delivered a number of lectures, the proceeds of which were devoted to the war relief fund.

SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY.

The Soldiers' Aid Society of Rockford was organized August 27, 1861. It represented the different religious organizations in the city, united on the broad ground of Christian patri-

otism, to labor with one mind and heart for those who had enlisted in the service of their country. The officers were: Mrs. Thomas Kerr, president; Mrs. Jane Smith, vice-president; Miss Juliette Wheat, secretary; Miss Melissa Moffat, treasurer; Miss Anna P. Sill, corresponding secretary. A statement published January 4, 1862, showed that a great work had been done during the first year of the war.

COUNTY WAR APPROPRIATIONS.

On January 4, 1862, H. R. Enoch, the county treasurer, made a public statement of county money expended for the relief of the families of volunteers. The total sum for the preceding eight months, from May to December, inclusive, was \$4,259.

WAR BOUNTIES.

At the regular session of the supervisors in December, 1863, the board of supervisors had raised the bounty to \$100 for all who would enlist between December 1 and January 5. This bounty was in the form of a county bond drawing 7 per cent. interest and transferable at pleasure.

The last year of the war drained the loyal states of its available militia. President Lincoln's call for 500,000 men in the summer of 1864 was a severe test of loyalty, but all demands were met by Winnebago County. On September 15, 1864, the board of supervisors passed a resolution offering a bounty of \$300 to volunteers in the county who had enlisted since September 5, or who might thereafter enlist. On October 1 it was officially announced that Winnebago County was out of the draft, and that under the last call for volunteers, more than 300 had been raised.

COST OF THE WAR.

On January 1, 1866, Adjutant-General Haynie issued a circular letter to the authorities of each county in the state, requesting a statement of the amount of money paid by counties, cities and villages. Winnebago County contributed \$434,038.25. The several townships and the city of Rockford raised \$65,964.13. These sums make a grand total of \$500,002.38. This amount was expended for bounties, transportation, subsist-

ence, general expenses, soldiers' families and interest.

Winnebago County contributed, 3,187 soldiers to the volunteer service of the Union during the Civil war. This was twenty-five more than its quota.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

The adjutant-general's report devotes fifteen full pages to the list of Illinois soldiers who died in Andersonville prison. Among those who survived the horrors of that prison pen from this county were: Captain Lewis F. Lake, a member of Taylor's Battery, who had been captured at the battle of Atlanta; Lieutenant Andrew Phinney and Roger Brown. Dr. Selwyn Clark and Dr. Clinton Helm were confined in Libby prison. H. C. Scovill, for many years city clerk, was a prisoner ten months at Macon, Ga. He enlisted in an Ogle County company. William L. Mesick, of Company E, First Illinois Light Artillery, a Rockford boy, was left on the field of Guntown, Miss., for dead, and afterward turned up at Andersonville prison. A funeral sermon was preached for him in Rockford. He recovered his health in a measure, and lived more than thirty years.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Illinois is the cradle of the Grand Army of the Republic. The founder was Dr. Benjamin Franklin Stephenson, a surgeon of the Fourteenth Illinois Infantry. He was assisted in this work by Rev. W. J. Rutledge, a Methodist clergyman and a chaplain of the same regiment. During the war these comrades had discussed a brotherhood of survivors, and after the close of their army service, these veterans, assisted by others, collaborated in preparing a ritual for the proposed organization. Two printers of Decatur, Isaac Coltrin and Joseph Prior, who had served in the army, were employed to set the type for the ritual. The first post of the Grand Army of the Republic was organized by Dr. Stephenson, assisted by Captain John S. Phelps, at Decatur April 6, 1866, the fourth anniversary of the first day's battle of Shiloh. There were twelve charter members. The last survivor, Christian Reibsame, of Bloomington, died in 1914.

The first national encampment of the Grand

Army of the Republic was held, pursuant to a call issued by Dr. Stephenson, at Indianapolis, Nov. 20, 1866. General Stephen A. Hurlbut, of Belvidere, was honored with election as first commander-in-chief. The second encampment was held in Philadelphia, January 15, 1868, when another distinguished son of Illinois, General John A. Logan, was chosen commander-in-chief.

NEVIUS POST.

G. L. Nevius Post of Rockford was organized June 1, 1866. The charter members were: W. D. E. Andrus, John F. Squier, Frank Peats, J. G. Manlove, Jr., and Evans Blake. The latter two still survive. General Stephen A. Hurlbut, of Belvidere, was the installing officer, and the organization was effected in the office of William Lathrop, 304 West State street, where Mr. Squier was a law student. There was considerable delay, however, in receiving the charter from the state department, which bears date of October 3, 1866. The names on the charter do not correspond exactly with those mustered into the post in June. They are: W. D. E. Andrus, Henry Creveling, John B. Sine, John T. Washburn, P. C. Campbell and S. Thomas Beddoes. The charter bears the signature of General Palmer as department commander. It is framed and hung in the ante-room at Memorial Hall. The original number of the post was 124, but at the eleventh encampment, held in January, 1877, it was recorded as Post No. 1, and thus its priority was established. All posts previously organized had disbanded.

Nevius Post is named in honor of Garrett L. Nevius, colonel of the Eleventh Illinois Infantry, who was killed May 22, 1863, while leading his regiment in a charge at the memorable siege of Vicksburg.

PLACES OF MEETING.

The first place of meeting of Nevius Post was over Hope & Clow's hardware store, now 320 West State street. In 1869 the post room was removed to Concert Hall, South Main street, where meetings were held until 1871, when Warner's Hall, State and Main streets, was secured. In 1881 Horsman Hall on West State street was leased for one year. In 1882 the post returned to Warner's Hall, where it remained until 1890. In that year headquarters were leased in the

Price block on South Wyman street. Since June, 1903, Memorial Hall has been the home of the post.

The officers in September, 1866, were: W. D. E. Andrus, commander; Henry Creveling, senior vice commander; John B. Sine, adjutant; John T. Washburn, quartermaster; Peter C. Campbell, officer of the day; S. Thomas Beddoes, officer of the guard. In November, 1866, another list of officers appears, as follows: W. D. E. Andrus, commander; Henry Creveling, senior vice commander; C. G. Manlove, adjutant; John T. Washburn, quartermaster; D. S. Clark, surgeon; E. Smith, officer of the day; S. Thomas Beddoes, officer of the guard.

POST COMMANDERS.

Captain W. D. E. Andrus was succeeded as post commander by John F. Squier, who served the first term of 1867. He was succeeded by Frank F. Peats, who served one term of six months. George Chapman was elected for the first term of 1868. He was succeeded by Thomas G. Lawler, who served until 1871, when Franklin M. Needham was elected. In 1872 Thomas G. Lawler was elected commander and continuously re-elected until 1908. Commanders since the death of Colonel Lawler have been: 1908-1909, M. A. Norton; 1910-1911, Robert Oliver; 1912, Lewis F. Lake; 1913, A. M. Hoffman; 1914, Edward Ridgley; 1915, William P. Buck; 1916, Robert Oliver.

Nearly a score of comrades have served as post adjutant. The present incumbent, E. P. Thomas, has served continuously since 1898.

The post now has 258 members. There are also four honorary members: A. D. Early, E. H. Keeler, A. H. Sherratt and R. K. Welsh. The late O. F. Barbour was also an honorary member.

Four state encampments of the Grand Army have been held in Rockford. The first was held January 30, 1874, in Wood's hall, the third floor of the building occupied by the C. F. Henry clothing store. The second was held January 25, 1882, when Thomas G. Lawler was elected department commander. The third encampment convened May 15, 1894, and the fourth May 15, 1904.

MEMORIAL DAY ORATORS.

Memorial day has been observed every year in Rockford since it was instituted by order of

General John A. Logan, May 5, 1868. The first observance was on May 30. There is no newspaper record of the event. Tradition, however, supplies the gap. Eighteen comrades assembled informally, and on their march to the West side cemetery, halted in front of the residence of Rev. D. M. Read, a Universalist clergyman, and drafted him as their first Memorial day orator. For some years thereafter it was the custom to have an oration delivered at West side and Cedar Bluff cemeteries on the same day of each year. For some years thereafter it was the custom to have an oration delivered at West side and Cedar Bluff cemeteries on the same day of each year. In 1869 Rev. T. C. Clendenning delivered the address on the West side and Rev. D. M. Reed, in Cedar Bluff. In 1870 General Thomas O. Osborne, of Chicago, spoke on the West side and Hon. R. F. Crawford, of Rockford on the East side. The record to 1878, inclusive, is as follows: 1871, East side, Dr. Thomas Kerr; West side, Rev. James Baume; 1872, East side, Mayor Seymour G. Bronson; West side, General A. L. Chetlain; 1873, East side, General Stephen A. Hurlbut; West side, Rev. J. M. Caldwell; 1874, East side, General Smith D. Atkins; West side, Mrs. S. M. I. Henry; 1875, East side, Rev. Frank P. Woodbury; West side, Rev. D. M. Reed; 1876, East side, Hon. John Budlong; West side, Rev. Samuel Fallows; 1877, East side, General John A. Logan; West side, William Marshall and Ex-Governor John L. Beveridge; 1878, East side, Major N. C. Warner; West side, General Allen C. Fuller.

In 1879 Nevius post discontinued the custom of having memorial addresses in each cemetery on every Memorial day. Since that time the service has been alternated for each side of the river. In 1879 General Richard J. Oglesby delivered the address in the West side cemetery. Later Memorial day orators have been: 1880, Colonel George H. Harlow, secretary of state; 1881, General Martin Beem; 1882, Gen. H. H. Thomas; 1883, P. W. Wilcox; 1884, Colonel James A. Connolly, of Springfield; 1885, Colonel Tuthill; 1886, General Philip Sidney Post; 1887, Colonel W. P. Hepburn, of Iowa; 1888, General John P. Rhea, of Minnesota, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army; 1889, Francis A. Riddle, Chicago; 1890, Gen. W. W. Belknap, former secretary of war; 1891, Rev. G. R. Vanhorne; 1892, Hon. W. F. Calhoun; 1893, Col. James A. Sexton, Chicago; 1894, Major N. C. Warner; 1895, Dr. G.



O. Baxter Howe M.D.

Wellington Bryant, Baltimore, first colored orator ever heard in Rockford on Memorial day; 1896, Bishop Samuel Fallows; 1897, Col. Charles G. Burton; 1898, Judge J. R. Shoupe, Chicago; 1899, Gen. W. D. Hoard; 1900, Col. W. J. Calhoun; 1901, Gen. Walter C. Newberry, Chicago; 1902, Corporal James Tanner; 1903, Col. Frank O. Lowden; 1904, Rev. D. R. Lucas; 1905, Major Bernard Kelly, Ottawa, Kansas; 1906, Judge Henry Freeman, Chicago; 1907, Rev. Frank W. Barnum; 1908, Congressman Charles E. Fuller; 1909, Rev. R. H. Pooley; 1910, Rev. E. C. Lumsden, Freeport; 1911, R. K. Welsh; 1912, Rev. Ernest Wray Oneal, Chicago; 1913, Stanton A. Hyer; 1914, Hon. C. J. Doyle; 1915, Rev. John Gordon; 1916, Robert Rew.

The Woman's Relief Corps was organized May 9, 1883, when officers were installed by Commander Lawler. There were twenty-eight charter members. The corps is the oldest in the state, and Mrs. Julia B. Sine was its first president. Mrs. Addie Hunter now holds the office. This noble band of women has constantly ministered to the needs of old soldiers and their families.

THOMAS G. LAWLER.

Thomas G. Lawler, Rockford's most widely known and greatly beloved citizen, died February 3, 1908. Colonel Lawler was born in Liverpool April 7, 1844. He enlisted as a private early in the Civil war in Company E of the Nineteenth Illinois Volunteers. He was elected commander of Nevius Post in 1868, and served until 1871. In 1872 he was again elected commander, and continuously re-elected until his death. Colonel Lawler was elected commander of the post forty-two times, thirty-seven of which were consecutive. This record will forever remain without a parallel in the annals of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Colonel Lawler was captain of the Rockford Rifles twenty years, and colonel of the Third regiment Illinois National Guard six years, from 1886 to 1892. He was elected commander of the Department of Illinois, G. A. R. in 1882. He was the leading spirit in placing the National emblem over every schoolhouse in Winnebago County. At the national encampment held in Pittsburg, Pa., in September, 1894, Colonel Lawler was elected commander of the Grand Army of the Republic on the first ballot. Rockford's

"first citizen" was given an ovation by the "home folk" upon his arrival. There was a great demonstration on the courthouse square. Addresses were made by Charles A. Works and Major N. C. Warner, to which Colonel Lawler made response. National headquarters were opened in the Brown building, and C. C. Jones was appointed adjutant-general. Col. Lawler served as postmaster of Rockford under commissions signed by five presidents of the United States. In private business he was a member of the Rockford Lumber and Fuel Company.

Colonel Lawler was a born democrat. Great and oft-repeated honors did not turn his head. All sorts and conditions of men familiarly addressed him as "Tom," and he always responded with his kindly military salute. (See Chapter 41.)

ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD.

In the interval between the Civil and the Spanish-American wars there were two local militia companies which brought honor to the Forest City. They were the Rifles and the Grays. The former, Company K, Third Regiment, I. N. G., was organized in 1876, and the latter, Company H, six years afterwards. The Rifles early in their career, through their proficiency in drill and remarkable military standing, achieved a fame by no means confined to Illinois alone. One year after their organization the Rifles saw their first military service. This was during the Braidwood riot, and in 1893 with the Grays, served in a similar capacity. The first meeting for organization was held July 22, 1876, and C. M. Brazee was elected captain; George A. Silsby first lieutenant, and H. N. Starr second lieutenant. Thomas G. Lawlor was elected drill-master and at the third meeting there were 114 men in line.

In the following year the state legislature passed a law providing for an enlisted militia. The Rifles promptly enlisted and became Company B of the Third regiment. After a brief service in the Braidwood riots the company decided to give attention to competitive drills and in the autumn of that year defeated the Aurora Light Guard. In 1879 the company participated in the great military encampment and prize contests at St. Louis in the month of October. On the way it stopped at Springfield and participated in a drill, in which it was defeated by

the Moline troops, the decision of the judge creating dissatisfaction among the spectators. At St. Louis the Rifles secured fourth honors among sixteen entries, the Chickasaw Guards being first, Company B, First Infantry, Chicago, second; and a St. Louis company third. In October, 1880, the company made its famous southern trip to participate in the encampment at Atlanta. Its journey going and returning was marked by ovations. It was a popular organization, by reason of the prominence of many of the members. Their annual balls were, for several years, the most notable events in the city's social calendar. The Rifles, now Company K, meet at the Armory every Monday evening for drill. The officers are: Dr. C. J. Sowle, captain; Elmer E. Lindroth, first lieutenant; George M. Hodge, second lieutenant. The company, previous to the late recruiting for service on the border, had a membership of 56.

The Grays were mustered into service December 28, 1882, by Maj. Henry N. Starr. George F. Adams was the original captain; Fred C. Pierce, first lieutenant; and Donald Tolmie, second lieutenant. Captain Adams resigned the following year and was succeeded by Fred Pierce. He in turn was succeeded by William G. Dustin. William C. Wildt was elected captain in 1886. When the latter moved up to the major's position Fred N. Drake was elected captain. He resigned March 27, 1893, and was succeeded by First Lieutenant William C. Brogunier. The Grays, now Company H, meet for drill every Tuesday evening. J. G. Tetlow is captain; J. W. Sadler, first lieutenant; Frank H. Billig, second lieutenant. There has not been a change in the commissioned officers in ten years. The membership, up to the late recruiting period, was 45.

The Armory is headquarters for officers of the Third Regiment, I. N. G. Regimental officers residing in Rockford are: E. E. Leonard, major; W. H. Brogunier, adjutant-captain; Richard Boyer, quartermaster; Rev. N. B. Clinch, chaplain; hospital corps: Major R. C. Bourland, surgeon; Captain H. W. Ackemann, assistant; Frank Jaycox, battalion quartermaster. Colonel Richings J. Shand is assistant adjutant-general at Springfield.

The Veteran Corps Infantry, Illinois National Guard, is composed of former members of the local companies. Lewis F. Lake is commander; Chandler Starr, treasurer. No meetings have

been held for some time, and the work of re-organization is now in progress.

OTHER MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS.

John A. Logan Camp No. 26, Sons of Veterans, was organized December 26, 1885, with sixty-eight members. Frank E. Maynard is the present commander. The membership is now sixty-five. The Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary was organized in 1889 with thirty members. Mrs. Emma Wolff is president. Other similar organizations are: The Rockford Naval Veterans' Association, V. D. Woodruff, captain; and the Eastern Veterans' Association, C. E. Bailey, secretary.

This record would not be complete without a reference to Harrison M. Platner. "Harry" was a familiar figure on the street and in all Grand Army gatherings. He enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry. He took great pride in the fact that he was stationed on the day President Lincoln's remains were laid to rest at Oakridge cemetery, Springfield, as guard right at the tomb during the services. He lived latterly in the memory of the old days, and was a storehouse of information on military history. His death was occasioned by an automobile, operated by an unknown person, on the night of September 1, 1915. His funeral, September 4, after the reunion of the Seventy-fourth regiment, was one of the largest ever held from Memorial Hall.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME.

A soldiers' and sailors' home was established by act of the legislature of Illinois, June 26, 1885. The commission appointed by Governor Oglesby to locate the home visited Rockford and selected the Jacoby property of seventy-five acres and the Rood tract of fifty acres as the most likely site available in this city. This property, now included in Sinnissippi Park, was held by the owners at \$25,500 net. The law only allowed \$10,000 for cost of location and purchase of land, leaving only about \$8,000 actually available. Citizens of Rockford pledged to make up the remaining \$17,500. The sum of \$5,025 was actually subscribed and 116 citizens guaranteed the balance of \$12,475. The commission, however, located the site at Quincy, after 399 ballots. In August, 1890, Major Frank

Peats, of Rockford, was appointed adjutant of the home, and held the office until April, 1894. Major Peats died March 20, 1895.

MEMORIAL HALL.

After the Civil war citizens of the "home guard" recognized the fact that some sort of a soldiers' memorial should be erected. On May 20, 1866, Rev. M. P. Kinney preached a sermon in the Second Congregational Church, urging the erection of a monument to commemorate the lives of those who had died for their country. It required more than a third of a century to realize this dream. In March, 1887, John D. Jackson, of Pecatonica, introduced a resolution before the board of supervisors for the appropriation of \$25,000 for a soldiers' monument. The question was to be submitted to a referendum vote at the April election. The following day the resolution was amended by Supervisor Simpson, providing for a monument or building, and passed by a vote of sixteen to five. The popular vote was in favor of the appropriation, but it was distributed in such a manner that a majority of the incoming supervisors were opposed to it. The matter was deferred at the May meeting of the board and in September the project was defeated outright, and it was another decade before agitation was revived.

At the session of the board of supervisors in July, 1898, A. D. Early made an appeal for a soldiers' memorial. A committee was appointed to confer with a citizens' committee. This joint committee reported at the December session of the county board. State's Attorney Frost was asked for an opinion concerning the legality of the appropriation. Mr. Frost gave a strict construction to the law, which he said did not clearly provide for such use of public money, and the project was again held in abeyance. At this point an appeal was made to the legislature. A. D. Early drafted a bill permitting boards of supervisors to appropriate money for memorials at county seats, after the matter had been approved by a popular vote. Hon. Henry Andrus, who was then in the legislature, was entrusted with the measure and he succeeded in securing its passage, and it became a law July 1, 1899. The question was submitted to a popular vote of the county at the general election in November, 1900, and was ratified by a vote of 5,616 to 2,565.

A beautiful memorial hall was built without delay. Bradley & Carpenter were the architects, and the contract for the construction was awarded to W. H. Cook. The building was dedicated by Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States, June 3, 1903. Addresses were also made by Congressman Charles E. Fuller, Gen. Benson Wood and others. The entire cost of the building, including furnishings and site, was \$59,136.

THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

When the call for troops came, in 1898, to right the wrongs of Cuba and punish Spain for her treachery in the destruction of the Maine, Winnebago County responded with more than its quota of men. Rockford first heard that actual hostilities had begun on Thursday, April 21, 1898. Prolonged whistles from the factories announced the declaration of war, and all classes of people were instantly charged with the military spirit.

President McKinley issued a call for 100,000 men, and Congress made liberal appropriations without a dissenting vote in either house. The quota of Illinois under this call was 6,439 men. Two days later Companies H and K were on their way to Springfield. At Elgin they were joined by Company M, and in Chicago the Rochelle and Woodstock companies were added. At Joliet Colonel Bennitt and staff and the company from that city were accessions. The Third Regiment arrived at Camp Tanner, Springfield, April 27. After two weeks in camp the boys left, May 14, for Chattanooga. On May 27 a telegram from Chattanooga announced the death of Lieut. C. E. Almond. The remains arrived in Rockford on Memorial day, and were buried with military honors. He was the first soldier from Winnebago County to die during this war.

After weeks of waiting the Rockford soldiers were ordered to move from Camp Thomas, and Sunday, July 24, found them on their way to Newport News, where they embarked on a transport for Porto Rico. Their record in the island campaign was one of which they had reason to be proud. One of the sad incidents of the war was the death of Lieut. W. A. Talcott, Jr., which occurred at Watch Hill, R. I., August 31, as the result of illness contracted in camp. He enlisted with the Seventy-first New York Volunteers immediately after he had been admitted

to the bar. Another Winnebago boy who went to war and death was Harry Potter, a member of Company H. A few days later word came of the death of Corporal Lillie. Another Rockford soldier who died from disease instead of bullets was Private Venus Nelson, who was a member of the First Wisconsin Regiment.

After hostilities had ceased the Rockford soldiers were kept on the island for several weeks, and sailed for home October 16. Companies H and K arrived in Rockford November 11. Their return was a notable event. It was estimated 20,000 people stood in the cold around the Illinois Central depot, awaiting the train, which did not arrive until 10 o'clock in the evening. There was a display of fireworks and a deafening discharge of artillery in welcome to the men.

Soon after their return there was a pageant of peace, with a banquet served for the honored soldiers. It was a night of red fire and patriotism. A sad touch was given the general rejoicing by news of the death of Jeremiah Hooley in Chicago. A few days later the veterans received letters of honorable discharge and they returned to the pursuits of peace.

THIRD ILLINOIS REGIMENT.

Field and staff officers of the Third regiment credited to Rockford: Arthur E. Fisher, lieutenant-colonel; Richings J. Shand, major; Ellsworth E. Crill, hospital steward.

The following is a list of the members of Companies H and K:

COMPANY H.

Captain, William H. Brogunier; first lieutenant, Charles E. Almond; second lieutenant, William H. Sarver; first sergeant, George Searle; quartermaster sergeant, Harry E. Brogunier; sergeants, Axel L. Hulsten, Herbert L. Backus, Fred L. Auchter, Harry T. Potter; corporals, Peter Lindberg, Frank E. Osborn, Fritz Johnson, Ed. C. Johnson, W. C. King, Anton Johnson, C. Roy Speake, Fred W. Farmiloe, John W. Petrie, Henry Sanders, George H. Baker, Gilmore Grant; musicians, William H. Stuckey, Stillman Valley, Louis W. Miles; artificer, George H. Allen; wagoner, Charles E. Richardson.

Privates—Charles E. Adamson, August L. Aplegren, Roy Archer, Leon M. Baldwin (Streator), James L. Basford, Frank B. Basford, Clar-

ence C. Boyer, Richard Boyer, Joseph Boyer, George L. Baxter, Louis M. Barker, Isaac W. Breckenridge (London, Pa.), Swan Carlson, Charles E. Carlson, Arthur B. Carr, Sullivan L. Clark, Joseph Caldwell, James Coyne, Edward E. Cowles, Edgar E. Campbell, Henry J. Dillon, Charles J. Dillon, H. J. Dickerman, Hiram R. Drake (Ft. Atkinson, Wis.), John Garry, John J. Hooley, Joseph A. Hunter, Edward Houseman, Fred Johnson, Louis W. Jones, John R. Johnson, David E. King, Andrew J. Lawler, Albert E. Lamb, John W. Lindell, Bert J. Lindell, Richard H. Ljungberg, Otto Lundin, Frank E. Mahon, Peter J. McGrath, William F. Murphy, Richard Noreen, Oscar G. Olson, Albert O'Garr, Harry E. Osgood, Frank G. Parker, James W. Paxton, Rudolph L. Peterson, Rudolph A. Peterson, Charles Sederstrom, Charles Sealander, Gustav Schmidt, George H. Shepard, John Smith, John A. Taylor, Lawrence Taylor, Edward Taylor, Eugene Tunison, Emil Van Holsbeke, Frank H. Welch, Abe L. Yingling.

Recruits—Gustave G. Boetcher (Milwaukee), Mark M. Butler (Belvidere), Joseph Bath, Thomas Blachford (Belvidere), Arthur R. Davis (Joliet), Albert L. Ferree (Cold Water, Mich.), Richard Flynn (Belvidere), Joseph Flannery (Belvidere), Louis Gastman, Jerry F. Holey, Robert A. Hunter, Clarence Humeston, Henry S. Hensel, Oscar A. Jackson, William S. Lawman (Belvidere), John J. McGrath, Andrew F. Maloney (Belvidere), Oron McConell, William Outcalt, Verman Outcalt, Edward C. Osmus, Roy M. Phelps (Belvidere), John W. Roderick (Belvidere), Edward W. Roderick (Belvidere), John E. Randolph (Garden Prairie), Henry Schmitz (Peoria), Fred B. Stockwell.

COMPANY K.

Captain, Edwin E. Leonard; first lieutenant, James A. Ruggles; second lieutenant, Ernest L. Hess; first sergeant, Lee Lemaire; Q. M. Sergeant, Eric Swenberg; Sergeants, Edward A. Quinn, Frank M. Hull, Frank Smith, Will McDermaid; corporals, Walter B. Taylor, Eric Kjellgren, Walter Wall, Samuel C. Hull, Fred J. Corey, Luman B. Lillie, William M. Danner, George A. Trumbo, Fred H. Wheeler, Will J. Barbour, John B. Chaney; musicians, Charles E. Frank, Knut O. Juhlin; artificer, Richard Anderson.

Privates—Charles E. Anderson, Fred C. Bar-



Thomas G. Hayward D.C.

bour, Charles G. Bowman, Joseph H. Bryden, Thatcher B. Bean, Frank Betts, William Buske, Oscar N. Danielson, Bert Dundon, Richard M. Eylward, Edward H. Engquist, Emil Flood, Wilgot Flood, Fred Fellows, Joseph Frost, Gust T. Gustafson, Robt. K. Gustafson, Charles G. Gustafson, Harold R. Gaston, James H. Galloway, Charles O. Harper, Lycurgus A. Hall, Joseph S. B. Hoffman, Clinton S. Holmes, Benjamin A. Hunter, John Hagenson, Harry Hunter, Jason B. Isbell, Eric S. Johnson, Louis H. Johnson, Frank A. Jordan (Chicago), Elmer R. Johnson, Axel Kjellgren, Paul R. Klentz, Victor Lilydahl, Paul C. Loveland, Peter A. Larson, Robert S. Lane, William H. McIntosh, Israel N. Mutimer, George Matthews, Harry Nelson, Fred R. Olson, Victor C. Olson, Henry Odendahl, Ed Ostness, Edwin Oberg, Floyd Osmus, George Pitney, Harry M. Putnam, Harry A. Parson, Frank R. Ridgley, Matthew Ryan, Wilbur P. Raymond, Charles F. Strong, Linus Selin, Bruce W. Savage, Grant Shields, Otto Stohlgren, Carl R. Savage, Charles A. Thorne, George Whitmore.

Recruits—Lewis Ahlberg (Belvidere), Charles G. Barnes (Byron), Frank Blank (Belvidere), John F. Clayton (Belvidere), Louis J. Caswell, Claus Ekstedt (Cherry Valley), William Fallon, Evert J. Garlock (Byron), Israel J. Ferris, Charles E. Gooman, Robert B. Hart (Byron), Guy Holland, Adolph Johnson, Herman Huffman, John E. Jones, Ernest Kilgore (Byron), Otto Koch (Belvidere), Henry C. Lane (Byron), George Monroe (Belvidere), Martin F. Nally (Byron), Clarence C. Nelson, George Patterson, Joseph H. Underwood (Byron), Steven Powell, Frans A. Titus, James G. Tetlow, Ernest D. Wallace (Belvidere).

Other Rockford boys who enlisted for the Spanish-American war were:

Third Illinois Regiment—Co. A: Charles R. Gipe, Axel L. Kjellgren. Co. D: Howard C. Carpenter, James McConnell. Co. F: Selwyn L. Clark, Charles Jenkins, Charles Sederstrom. Co. G: Richard Anderson, Ray T. Barnes, Robert S. Farrar. Co. M: Frank W. Adams, Ernest V. Johnson, William J. Myers, C. A. George Sahlin.

Sixth Infantry—Co. L: John M. Keefe.

Seventh Infantry—Co. L: Guy L. Harvey. Co. M: Dennis Owens.

Eighth Infantry—Harry S. McCard.

Third Nebraska Infantry—Warren H. Ray. First U. S. Engineers—Co. F: W. D. Kewish. First U. S. Volunteer Infantry—Co. B: P. W. Doolittle.

Fortieth Wisconsin Infantry—Co. B: William H. Fitch.

Fifth Wisconsin Artillery—Josiah C. Forbes.

Third Missouri Cavalry—Co. G: George H. Forbes.

Second U. S. Volunteer Engineers—Second Battalion: C. Kingsley Ray.

Fifty-first Iowa Infantry—Co. B: Elmer G. Stockberger.

Arthur E. Fisher went to the front with the Third regiment as lieutenant-colonel. In 1899 he was elected colonel of the regiment and served the full term of five years. He was re-elected in 1904, and resigned in the spring of 1905, after rendering nineteen years of military service to the state.

After the war the veterans organized after the manner of the Grand Army of the Republic. They formed Arthur E. Fisher Camp No. 5, United Spanish War Veterans, and Almond Camp No. 60. Forest City Auxiliary No. 11 is an organization of women.

MILITIA SUMMONED TO MEXICAN BORDER.

Sunday, June 18, 1916, President Wilson issued a call for practically the entire national guard of the United States for duty along the Mexican border. The Third Regiment Illinois National Guard, of which the two Rockford companies form a part, was rapidly recruited to nearly war strength. The Armory at Rockford at once became a busy scene, recalling to older citizens the stirring days of 1861. Recruiting continued until Company H was increased to 140 men, including commissioned and non-commissioned officers, musicians, cooks and privates. Company K was increased to 113 men. Rockford also furnished thirteen members of the regimental sanitary corps and six officers of the Third Regiment: Edwin E. Leonard, major; William H. Brogunier, adjutant; J. Richard Boyer, quartermaster; Rev. Nicholas B. Clinch, chaplain; Dr. Robert C. Bourland, medical corps; Dr. Harry W. Ackermann, medical corps. Not less than 272 citizens of Rockford and immediate vicinity responded to the call to arms,

according to a carefully prepared list published June 24.

The militia companies entrained for Springfield at the Chicago & Northwestern depot at 10 o'clock Friday night, June 23. Their departure was attended by the greatest demonstration in the history of the city, and it was estimated that 30,000 people were on the streets. Just before leaving the armory each soldier was presented a copy of the New Testament by Rev. W. B. Clemmer, in behalf of the Pastors' Union of Rockford, and Rev. H. M. Bannen, of Trinity Lutheran offered prayer in the name of "The Prince of Peace." Rev. N. B. Clinch, rector of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, responded to the gift in behalf of the troops.

The parade was a wonderful scene, tremendous in its solemnity and splendid in its heart interest and sympathy. The spectacle of American soldiers marching away to war is not a familiar one. It had been eighteen years since the drama was last enacted in Rockford. The outburst of patriotic sentiment on that occasion was thrilling. It was more so on this occasion, not because the city was less patriotic then, but because Rockford has grown mightily in population since that time.

The Barber-Colman band led the line of march. Spanish war veterans, National Guard veterans, Temperance guards, and Tebala temple patrol were in line. The Grand Army veterans, living over scenes of more than fifty years ago, came next, a sight which brought the first mist to the eyes of beholders. Then came the fighting men, the field and staff officers, H and K and the Sanitary corps. The jam at the station was terrific. There was a little delay in consequence, the train moving out at 10:20.

Emmanuel Episcopal church sent its rector, choirmaster, two vestrymen and eighteen members of the congregation. The Winnebago County bar contributed seven guardsmen, besides two former Rockford boys who are practicing in Chicago.

Among the notable events of recruiting week was the marriage of F. F. Wormwood, Jr., first sergeant of Company K, son of F. F. Wormwood, president of the People's Bank and Trust Company, and Miss Jean Nelson, of Gwynn, Mich. The rooms of the Wormwood home were decorated in red, white and blue flowers; a

large flag was also conspicuous to give the military touch to the nuptial setting. Officers of Company K in full uniform were present together with fifty intimate friends and relatives. The ceremony was performed at 9 o'clock by the Rev. John Gordon. Mrs. Wormwood is the first "war bride."

On the evening preceding the departure of the militia, the National Guard Relief Association was organized. Its purpose is to raise a fund for the aid of families of guardsmen who may need assistance. Within forty-eight hours \$540 had been pledged.

SOLDIERS BURIED AT ROCKFORD.

Up to October 1, 1915, there were 585 soldiers buried in the four cemeteries of Rockford. They represent all of the five wars in which the United States has been engaged. There is one soldier of the Revolutionary war, seventeen soldiers of the war of 1812, four of the Mexican war, 526 of the Civil war, and thirty-seven of the Spanish-American war. These heroes of the republic are buried in the several cemeteries as follows:

West Side—Revolutionary, one; 1812, fourteen; Mexican, three; Civil, 321; Spanish-American, fourteen.

Cedar Bluff—1812, three; Mexican, one; Civil, 145; Spanish-American, five.

Catholic—Civil, fifty-eight; Spanish-American, ten.

Scandinavian—Civil, two; Spanish-American, eight.

The soldier of the Revolution, Jehiel Harmon, was born in Suffield, Conn., October 5, 1762, and died March 3, 1845. There are two other revolutionary soldiers buried in Winnebago County. Samuel Campbell, a native of Connecticut, was born October 8, 1762, and died November 8, 1844. He is buried in the Hulse cemetery, Pectonica. Ephraim Palmer, a native of Massachusetts, was one of the soldiers assigned to guard the notorious Major Andre. He is buried in Kishwaukee cemetery, Kishwaukee. The graves of these revolutionary heroes have been marked by the Rockford chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution. One of the soldiers of the Mexican war was William McClay, who died April 8, 1915.

CHAPTER XXII.

THE MEDICAL AND DENTAL
PROFESSIONS.

MANY PHYSICIANS AMONG THE PIONEERS—SHORT
BIOGRAPHIES OF WELL-KNOWN PRACTITIONERS—
WINNEBAGO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY—LIST OF
PHYSICIANS AT ROCKFORD—OSTEOPATHIC PRAC-
TITIONERS—CHIROPRACTORS—DENTISTS WELL
REPRESENTED.

PHYSICIANS AMONG THE PIONEERS.

The pioneers of Winnebago County included a number of physicians, some of whom attained local distinction, and all beloved by their respective patients. Doctors J. C. Goodhue, A. M. Catlin, Alden Thomas, Levi Moulthrop, C. H. Richings, George Haskell, A. E. Goodwin, R. P. Lane and Lucius, D. S. and L. A. Clark have been mentioned in previous chapters. Dr. Charles Church, grandfather of the writer, settled in Guilford Township about 1844, and later removed to Belvidere. Between those early-day physicians and those who are now in practice, was another generation which has also passed away. Some of these may be briefly noted.

Dr. Clinton Helm was widely known as the "silent surgeon." He was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., February 21, 1829. He came with his parents to Illinois, and settled in Ogle County in 1837. He read medicine with Dr. Lucius Clark and was graduated at Keokuk, Iowa. Dr. Helm was commissioned a surgeon in the Ninety-second Illinois Infantry by Governor Yates, September 4, 1862. He was a prisoner of war in Libby at Richmond, where he remained two months. After the war he engaged in practice in Beloit, Wis., and came from there to Rockford in 1878. On February 25, 1902, the Winnebago County Medical Society gave a banquet in honor of Dr. Helm's fiftieth year of continuous practice. He died January 13, 1914, in his eighty-fifth year, fifty-five of which were devoted to his profession.

Dr. E. P. Catlin was a son of Dr. A. M. Catlin. He was born in Chester, Ohio, July 1, 1837, and came with his father's family to Winnebago

County when he was six months old. He was graduated from Rush Medical College in 1865, and in February of that year he was commissioned assistant surgeon in the One Hundred and Fifty-second Illinois Infantry. Dr. Catlin died September 26, 1904. He had a quiet dignity and represented the best traditions of the old school. Dr. S. R. Catlin, the third physician in a direct line, is a son.

Dr. E. C. Huse was one of the most familiar figures on the streets of Rockford for many years. He was born in Newburyport, Mass. September 20, 1835; was graduated from Harvard University in 1856, and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York March 8, 1866. He came to Rockford a short time later and most of his subsequent life was spent here. Dr. Huse died May 14, 1900. He had a splendid intellectual equipment for his profession.

The Journal of the American Medical Association for December, 1905, announced the death of a Rockford practitioner, as follows: "Robert Edwin Coy, M. D., Chicago Medical College, 1891; a member of the American Medical Association, Illinois State Medical Society, Winnebago County Medical Society, and a member of the attending staff of the Rockford City Hospital, died at his home in Rockford, Ill., November 21, from pneumonia, after an illness of about one week." Dr. Coy was born in Guilford Township July 10, 1848.

Dr. Thomas M. Butler was born in Lycoming County, Pa., June 21, 1833, and was graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College in May, 1857. He began practice in Rockford, Ill., but tried other fields, and finally settled in Pocatonia, where he practiced sixteen years. In 1876 Dr. Butler was elected circuit clerk and held the office twelve years. He removed to Milwaukee, Wis., in 1888, but returned to Rockford, where his last years were spent. Dr. Butler died in December, 1912.

Dr. Albert S. Green died in Rockford June 1, 1911. He was born in Jo Daviess County, Ill., April 9, 1853; studied at Mt. Morris Seminary, Northwestern University, University of Michigan, and was graduated from Chicago Medical College in 1878. He came from Wisconsin to Rockford in 1894. Dr. John A. Green, of Rockford, is a son.

Dr. Rockwood Sager was born in Belvidere, Ill., July 2, 1856, and was graduated from Rush Medical College in 1878. He spent two years

in Chicago, and came to Rockford in 1880, and opened an office on the South side. Dr. Sager established a large practice, and was for four years a member of the board of education. He died December 2, 1913.

WINNEGABO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The Winnebago County Medical Society was organized October 18, 1881, and reorganized February 12, 1894. The society meets the second Tuesday of every month except July and August. It is the plan of the society to have one speaker outside the city each month, and often the following meeting is devoted to a discussion of cases suggested by the address of the last speaker. The officers of the society are: H. M. Starkey, president; F. H. Kimball, vice-president; C. M. Ranseen, secretary. The society has its rules governing the conduct of its members, and a regular scale of prices for services rendered. The society has a membership of about eighty, about three-quarters of whom are from the city of Rockford. There are, however, nearly one hundred physicians registered in Rockford alone. The physicians residing in the several towns will be noted in the historical sketches of the townships.

The following is a list of the physicians residing in Rockford: H. W. Ackemann, J. E. Allaben, S. C. Andrus, R. E. Anthony, R. C. Bourland, W. A. Boyd, F. C. Brooks, M. S. Brundage, W. P. Burdick, F. W. Calkins, S. R. Catlin, E. J. Clark, C. E. Crawford, T. H. Culhane, W. H. Cunningham, D. W. Day, A. C. Eakin, A. J. Edson, E. J. Farrell, W. H. Fitch, O. M. Ford, Biogio Franceschi, S. D. Francis, W. R. Franklin, W. R. Fringer, G. P. Gill, E. W. Goembel, John A. Green, W. Grant Hatch, J. E. Haughey, I. J. Heckman, W. B. Helm, F. K. Hill, G. A. Howard, O. Baxter Howe, Katherine E. James, D. M. Keith, R. P. Kile, F. H. Kimball, R. G. W. Kinder, T. F. Kinley, A. E. Kroening, Daniel Lichty, Emil Lofgren, J. S. Lundholm, G. W. McDowell, Elizabeth C. Maas, P. L. Markley, R. W. Markley, T. N. Miller, H. F. Moore, C. W. Moyer, Olof Nordwall, C. V. Nyman, William J. O'Donnell, E. A. Ochsner, E. E. Ochsner, O. A. Olson, W. E. Park, H. A. Pattison, A. C. Pearman, D. B. Penniman, J. R. Porter, C. M. Ranseen, W. L. Ransom, R. A. Reedy, Henry Richings, Rogers & Rogers, E. M. Rundquist, L. O. Scott, L. A. Shultz, H. M. Starkey, Lemuel Tibbets, John E. Tuite, C. V. Urbom, C. A.

Walker, Hamlin J. Walters, G. A. Weirick, Edward H. and Anna Weld, F. J. Weld, Sidney Wilgus, C. S. Winn, G. L. Winn, C. E. Wright, John R. Young

The following osteopaths are practitioners at Rockford: J. P. Gordon, M. M. Alden, C. A. Gustafson, Mrs. Minnie Hodge, A. S. Loving, C. E. Medaris, A. C. Proctor, D. C. Richards, M. Elizabeth Schupert, Flora M. Swengel and H. T. Wise. J. P. Gordon, C. A. Gustafson and J. A. Schellenbarger are chiropractors. dental association.

WINNEGABO COUNTY DENTAL ASSOCIATION.

The dentists of Winnebago County have maintained an organization for many years. Dentists who are affiliated with the local organization by the payment of dues are thereby identified with the state and national bodies. Nearly every dentist in the county is practicing in Rockford. Not every dentist, however, is identified with the local society. Dr. E. E. Walker is president of the association and Dr. M. L. Johnson is secretary. The following dentists are now practicing in Rockford:

L. J. Andrew, B. H. Biglow, O. A. Crossan, A. B. Culhane, H. F. Delmore, D. O. Duncan, Edward Eakin, F. A. Eastman, J. H. Elliott, Benj. F. Ells, H. P. Fahr, A. C. Gray, L. A. Grigsby, M. L. Hanaford, James E. Harned, M. R. Harned, A. M. Harrison, Hayes Dental Office, C. B. Helm, C. S. Helm, O. R. Holmin, P. C. Howland, M. L. Johnson, P. G. Laon, C. B. Mead, R. G. Nordgren, J. L. Palmer, P. H. Plummer, A. F. Quick, F. E. Salisbury, R. L. Shanklin, H. G. Shumway, C. J. Sowle, J. F. Stokes, E. S. Tebbets, United Dentists, E. E. Walker, H. M. Wettengel, E. J. Witherstine and O. G. Wolfrum.

CHAPTER XXIII.

BANKING AND INSURANCE.

A FINANCIAL GIBRALTAR—OLDEST ROCKFORD BANK—WINNEGABO NATIONAL BANK—BANK OF ROCKFORD—SPAFFORD, CLARK & ELLIS BANK—FOUNDERS OF THIRD NATIONAL BANK—SECOND NA-



Gust E. Johnson

TIONAL BANK—E. L. FULLER & COMPANY, BANKERS—E. H. POTTER & COMPANY, BANKERS—EDWARD N. KITCHEL, BANKER—PRIVATE BANK OF N. C. THOMPSON—FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ROCKFORD—SECOND NATIONAL BANK—THE OLDEST NATIONAL BANK—THE THIRD NATIONAL BANK—THE ROCKFORD NATIONAL BANK—THE PEOPLE'S BANK—THE MANUFACTURERS' NATIONAL BANK—THE FOREST CITY NATIONAL BANK—ROCKFORD'S YOUNGEST BANK—THE SWEDISH-AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK—INCREASING DEPOSITS—ROCKFORD CLEARING HOUSE ASSOCIATION—PRESENT OFFICERS—INSURANCE—ROCK RIVER MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY—REAPER CITY INSURANCE COMPANY—ROCKFORD INSURANCE COMPANY—AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY—FOREST CITY INSURANCE COMPANY—MANUFACTURERS' AND MERCHANTS' MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY—SECURITY INSURANCE COMPANY—RELIANCE INSURANCE COMPANY—INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS—MUTUAL COMPANIES IN CITY AND COUNTY—LIFE INSURANCE—FOREST CITY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY—ROCKFORD LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY—MANUFACTURERS' AND MERCHANTS' LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

A FINANCIAL GIBRALTAR.

The seven banking houses of Rockford constitute a veritable Gibraltar. They represent a conservatism born of the failures of a past generation; an integrity that is above suspicion. Present conditions are unlike those which beset the banker of sixty years ago. That was a day of unstable currency, when "wild-cat" money was abundant, but worthless. Banking was then a precarious business. Only two houses in Rockford weathered the storm and these are in business today. It is nearly twenty years since a Rockford bank has failed, and so far as present conditions are a criterion, another failure within the next generation is impossible.

OLDEST ROCKFORD BANK.

The first bank in Rockford was opened in 1848 by Thomas D. Robertson and John A. Holland. Their place of business was a low frame building adjoining the European hotel site on West State street. In 1851 J. S. Coleman removed from New York to Rockford and became a member of the firm, the name of which was changed to Robertson, Coleman & Co. The

firm continued in business in its small quarters until 1855, when the present Winnebago National bank block was completed. Upon the death of Mr. Holland in 1855, Melancthon Starr was admitted to the firm; and after Mr. Coleman's death in 1864, the firm name was changed to Robertson & Starr, which continued until the organization of the Winnebago National Bank.

The Winnebago National Bank is the oldest bank in the city, representing an unbroken line since 1848, when Robertson & Holland began business in a small and primitive way. The Winnebago opened its doors as a national bank April 3, 1865, with T. D. Robertson, president; Melancthon Starr, vice-president; Spencer Rising, cashier. William T. Robertson succeeded his father as president. This bank has been in continuous existence sixty-eight years, and all of this period its presidency has been in one family, in father and son. Chandler Starr is cashier. The capital stock is \$250,000, with a surplus of \$150,000. Its deposits November 10, 1915, were \$1,694,335.75.

In October, 1852, the Bank of Rockford was organized under the general banking law of the state. Charles I. Horsman was president, and Charles C. Wilcox, cashier. A sworn statement of its condition on the first Monday in July, 1853, reported a circulation of \$49,995. The late Levi Moulthrop began his business career as a clerk in this bank, when he was twelve years of age and remained five years. The bank suspended in 1857.

The banking house of Spafford, Clark & Ellis was founded in November, 1854. The firm consisted of C. H. Spafford, Dr. D. G. Clark, and E. F. W. Ellis. Dr. Clark came to Rockford in 1848. Two years later he went to California and returned in 1853. Dr. Clark died October 4, 1861. Spafford, Clark & Ellis did business in the old stone building on the alley, on the south side of State, between Main and Church. This building was torn down and replaced by a modern structure by Patrick Moran, and now owned by his widow. This bank went into liquidation and Mr. Spafford is said to have paid its obligations in full.

In 1854 was also established the banking house of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield in East Rockford, which became the Third National Bank. The members of the firm were C. C. Briggs, A. C. Spafford and David S. Penfield.

On January 1, 1855, the banking firm of

Dickerman, Wheeler & Company began business on West State street. The firm consisted of W. A. Dickerman, Buel G. Wheeler, G. A. Sanford and R. P. Lane. Mr. Wheeler retired, and the firm name was changed to Laue, Sanford & Company, with Mr. Dickerman as its silent partner. This house became the Second National Bank.

Fuller & Tomkins began a banking business in the Worthington block, East Rockford, in 1853. The firm consisted of Allen C. and E. L. Fuller and Enos and N. C. Tomkins, all of Belvidere, Ill. The firm was later called E. L. Fuller & Company.

E. H. Potter & Company and Edward N. Kitchel were also in the banking business on the East side.

The private bank of N. C. Thompson was opened about 1860 in the building occupied by the Manufacturers' National Bank. It is said Mr. Thompson had \$150,000 on deposit in Chicago banks at the time of the great fire in 1871. Mr. Thompson did a general banking business. He received deposits and issued certificates therefor. This bank closed its doors in 1884.

The First National Bank of Rockford began business June 15, 1864, with Alonzo Wood as president, and E. H. Griggs, cashier. It occupied the second floor of the C. F. Henry block. Mr. Wood conducted a large general store approaching the modern department store, and had the stores now occupied by Mr. Henry and A. C. Deming. Mr. Wood built the block now occupied by Mr. Deming. The First National was popularly called "Wood's bank." His son, W. W. Wood, succeeded to the management, with Geo. Stratton as cashier. The bank and the store tumbled into a common ruin in March, 1869. The first currency issued in Rockford under the national banking law was put in circulation by the First National Bank August 5, 1864. Mr. Wood died in Daysville, Ill., in July, 1887.

The Second National Bank was organized in 1865 as the successor of the banking firm of Lane, Sanford & Company. The principal stockholders were Dr. R. P. Lane, G. A. Sanford and W. A. Dickerman. In its prime it was the largest banking house in the city, but reverses came and the institution finally closed its doors in 1896. H. H. Waldo was appointed receiver.

THE OLDEST NATIONAL BANK.

The Third National Bank was organized in 1864 to succeed the banking firm of Briggs, Spafford and Penfield. A. C. Spafford was president until his death in 1897. W. T. Wallis was the first cashier. His successors have been L. A. Trowbridge, George C. Spafford, B. J. Chaney and M. A. Kjellgren. J. H. Sherratt succeeded A. C. Spafford as president, and served until his death. His successor and the present head of the institution is George C. Spafford. The Third is now the oldest national bank in Rockford. Its capital stock is \$250,000, with surplus and profits of \$249,093.97. Its deposits, according to its statement made to the comptroller of the currency November 10, 1915, were \$1,990,759.45.

The Rockford National Bank began business in May, 1871. Gilbert Woodruff was president until his death in 1903. He was succeeded by Horace Brown, and the latter was succeeded by William F. Woodruff, a son of the founder, who is now president. H. S. Burpee is cashier. In 1905 W. F. Woodruff and C. F. Henry obtained possession of the old Second National Bank building and site on the corner of West State and South Main streets, and razed the old structure. The Trust building, the largest edifice of its kind in the city, was completed in 1907 by Mr. Woodruff and Mr. Henry, under the name of the Rockford Trust and Safety Deposit Company, and the Rockford National Bank took possession of a part of the first floor. One-fourth of the site is owned by Mr. Woodruff and Mr. Henry. The remaining three-fourths are held under a 99-year lease obtained from the heirs of H. W. Loomis. This corner has been in possession of the Loomis family eighty years, since 1836, when Nathaniel Loomis entered it from the government. Four buildings have occupied the site: The Log Tavern, known as the Stage House, opened in 1838; the old Second National bank block, built about 1843; the later Second National bank building, erected in 1873, and the Trust building. The capital stock of the Rockford National is \$100,000, with surplus and profits of \$223,033.79. Its deposits at the official report in November, 1915, were \$2,086,141.03.

The People's Bank began business July 31, 1873, in the building now occupied by the Dunn Drug Company. The officers were: N. E. Ly-

man, president; A. D. Forbes, vice-president; D. H. Ferguson, cashier. In 1892 the bank was removed to the first floor of the William Brown building. Mr. Lyman's successors in the presidency have been: A. D. Forbes, Harry F. Forbes and F. F. Wormwood. L. E. Scott is cashier. The capital stock is \$125,000, with surplus and profits of \$201,362.30. Its deposits are \$1,292,576.81. The present title of the bank is The Peoples Bank and Trust Company.

The Manufacturers' National Bank began business January 2, 1889, and its growth was phenomenal from the first. It occupied the first floor of the building on the northeast corner of East State and North First streets. The Crotty building, diagonally across State street, was subsequently purchased, and the bank now has elegant and spacious quarters. Charles O. Upton was the first president, and his successors have been W. F. Barnes and N. F. Thompson. A. P. Floberg is cashier. The capital stock is \$200,000, with \$78,760.34 in surplus and profits. Its deposits are \$1,759,729.86.

The Forest City National Bank opened its doors June 7, 1890. It has occupied the same site from the first, and John D. Waterman has been its only president. Paul F. Schuster was the first cashier, and was succeeded by Mrs. E. E. Brumbaugh. Its capital stock is \$100,000, with surplus and profits of \$170,658.56. Its deposits are \$1,149,674.76.

John Budlong was the prime mover in the organization of a state bank on Seventh street in 1892. The bank succumbed to the financial crash of 1893.

ROCKFORD'S YOUNGEST BANK.

The Swedish-American National is the youngest bank in Rockford, and began business August 1, 1910, on Seventh street. William Johnson is president, and G. A. Peterson is cashier. Its paid-in capital is \$125,000 with surplus and undivided profits of \$45,222.87. The bank has deposits of \$708,624.02.

The increase in the deposits of Rockford banks by decades is as follows: December 13, 1895, \$2,591,608.43; November 9, 1905, \$6,073,625; November 10, 1915, \$10,681,841.78; the deposits March 7, 1916, were \$11,684,468.41. The banks made an innovation in 1915 by encouraging "thrift deposits" of small sums, which were paid out in December, and were of mutual

convenience to merchants and their patrons during the holiday season.

ROCKFORD CLEARING HOUSE ASSOCIATION.

The Rockford Clearing House Association was organized July 6, 1891. George E. King was president; Chandler Starr, vice-president; John D. Waterman, secretary; C. E. Herrick, treasurer. The association has a constitution, and many questions, formerly settled by the banks in their individual capacity, are now passed upon by this central body. The clearings for the first three years are not available. The clearings for 1894 were \$10,159,019.90; for 1895, \$10,846,305.33; for 1905, \$26,627,161.70. The clearings since 1908 have been: 1908, \$31,221,374; 1909, \$34,928,135; 1910, \$41,233,955; 1911, \$40,867,113; 1912, \$45,006,662; 1913, \$50,889,489; 1914, \$47,307,653; 1915, \$48,924,953. The clearings for December, 1915, were \$48,924,953.

The present officers of the association are: Chandler Starr, president; John D. Waterman, vice-president; F. F. Wormwood, secretary and treasurer.

INSURANCE.

Rockford is an important insurance center. The business began in village days, but it developed slowly, and was firmly established only after several failures. The Rock River Mutual Insurance Company was granted a charter in June, 1852. Allen Gibson was secretary, and the company did considerable business for some years. It failed in February, 1869.

The Reaper City Insurance Company was chartered in 1866, and subscription books were opened April 18, 1867. It had a paid-up capital of \$150,000 and was successful for some years. Thomas D. Robertson was president and Melancthon Starr treasurer.

ROCKFORD INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Rockford Insurance Company was organized in 1867. William Watson was the prime mover in this organization and became its secretary and manager. The company prospered for a number of years until Mr. Watson's failing health resulted in a decline in the company's business.

In 1882 Charles E. Sheldon was elected secre-

tary, and continued as such until 1899, when a syndicate of Chicago bankers purchased the stock of the company. Their plans did not develop as anticipated, and on June 12, 1899, the business of the company was reinsured in the American Insurance Company of Newark, and Charles E. Sheldon became western manager of that company. At the time the Rockford discontinued business its premium income was in the neighborhood of \$700,000. The business of the American as its successor in the west has steadily increased until last year, 1915, when the premiums of the Rockford office amounted, in round numbers, to \$2,500,000. This was secured from thirteen states as follows: Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Wisconsin. This comprises the territory of the western department. The American Insurance Company, shortly after its reinsurance of the Rockford, localized its business by erecting its present office building at the corner of North Main and Peach Streets, and elected Mr. Sheldon vice-president of the company. The growth of the business of the company made necessary additional office facilities, and in 1914 the company completed a fireproof addition, 50 by 60 feet, two stories and basement, similar in architectural design to the original building. The American has a large business in the city of Rockford, and also in the state of Illinois. Its total premiums in Illinois approximate \$1,000,000 annually. Mr. Sheldon is one of the most widely known insurance men in the country.

FOREST CITY INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Forest City Insurance Company was organized in August, 1874. The original officers were: Gilbert Woodruff, president; Harris Barnum, vice-president; C. W. Sheldon, secretary; Horace Brown, treasurer. The late John H. Sherratt was secretary many years, and was succeeded by his brother, A. H. Sherratt. The company insured farm and village property. It limited its field to Illinois, and did a large business. In March, 1914, the Forest City was sold to the National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, Conn., but still retains its own corporate identity, under the name of the Forest City Insurance Agency. Hon. Frederick Haines is the resident manager.

MANUFACTURERS' AND MERCHANTS' MUTUAL.

The Manufacturers' and Merchants' Mutual Insurance Company was organized in 1881. H. W. Price was president, and Major George S. Roper was chosen secretary on the day he came from Springfield, Illinois, to make Rockford his home. Major Roper held the position until his death, February 3, 1897. He was a courtly, old-school gentleman, and his passing was deeply mourned. The insurance company went into liquidation in 1901, with Fred E. Sterling as receiver.

SECURITY INSURANCE COMPANY.

The western department of the Security Insurance Company of New Haven, Conn., was established in Rockford in 1888, with Mr. Charles E. Sheldon, who at that time was secretary of the Rockford, as manager. After the reinsurance of the Rockford in the American, both companies were managed conjointly until 1907, when a separate department for the Security was established, with J. A. Daggett as manager. Mr. Daggett died in 1909, and W. D. Williams was appointed as manager. The company operates in thirteen of the middle-west states, writing fire, lightning, windstorm, hail and thresher insurance. The Security established its office in its new building in 1912. The company employs about forty-five people.

Associated with the Security is the Reliance Insurance Company, of Philadelphia, the western department of which was established at Rockford in 1911.

INSURANCE COMPANY STATE OF ILLINOIS.

The Insurance Company of the State of Illinois was incorporated April 2, 1895, and was managed entirely by Rockford men. George L. Wiley was secretary for several years. The company is now in process of liquidation, with C. F. Henry and C. C. Lane as receivers. They expect to close its affairs in the latter part of 1917.

MUTUAL COMPANIES.

The Rockford Farmers' Mutual Tornado Insurance Company was chartered in November, 1896, and began business the following month.



William Johnson

Hon. David Hunter has been president from the first, and S. F. Wray has been secretary with the exception of the first few months. The company insures in twenty-five counties of Illinois, and its present volume of business is \$15,000,000. The Rockford Swedish Mutual Fire Insurance Company was incorporated in 1872. Frank G. Stibb is secretary. There are six farmers' mutual insurance companies in Winnebago, outside of Rockford, as follows: Burritt, incorporated in 1873; Durand, 1874; Guilford, 1874; Manchester, doing business in Manchester and Leroy, in Boone County, and Roscoe, in Winnebago County, 1874; Winnebago, organized in 1874, reorganized in 1875, and doing business in Winnebago and Seward townships; and Pecatonica, organized in 1895.

LIFE INSURANCE.

The Forest City Life Insurance Company was organized July 21, 1909. On December 31, 1915, the company had \$3,031,000 of insurance in force, a gain of over half a million for the year. T. V. Engstrom was president up to his death in January, 1916, and was succeeded by A. D. Warner. George W. Brearley is secretary.

The Rockford Life Insurance Company was organized February 17, 1909, and began business in March, 1910, as an old line legal reserve company. Its insurance in force December 31, 1915, was \$2,910,248. Hon. A. J. Lovejoy is president; C. J. Lundberg, secretary; H. S. Burpee, treasurer; F. L. Brown, agency manager.

The Manufacturers' and Merchants' Life Insurance Company was incorporated in January, 1908, and began business in April, 1909. N. C. Bement is president and manager.

CHAPTER XXIV

ROCKFORD MUNICIPAL HISTORY.

CONTEMPORARY EVENTS—FIRST ELECTION UNDER NEW LAW—WILLARD WHEELER FIRST MAYOR—FIRST BOND ISSUE—SPECIAL CHARTER—NEW

WARD DIVISION—THE LICENSE QUESTION—FIRST HOUSE NUMBERING—SEVEN WARDS CREATED—LICENSE BECAME PARAMOUNT ISSUE IN 1876—A HISTORIC CARTOON—ROCKFORD INCORPORATED UNDER GENERAL LAW—FIRST SUBSEQUENT ELECTION—REFERENDUM VOTE—WOMEN'S PETITION—THE SPECIAL BALLOT—HIGH LICENSE LAW—SCHOOL DISTRICTS CONSOLIDATED—PARTY LINES CLOSELY DRAWN—PRICE SET FOR SALOON LICENSES—PUBLIC PARKS URGED—FIRST STREET PAVING—THE LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE—WOMEN APPOINTED ON SCHOOL BOARD—MAYOR HUTCHINS' CONTROVERSY WITH FIRE MARSHAL HEFFRAN—IN 1897 CITY COUNCIL SOLID FOR LICENSE—ELECTRIC LIGHT CONTRACT—OTHER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS—CONTROVERSY OVER LIBRARY SITE—REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL BOARD—ORGANIZED LABOR—FIRST LOCAL OPTION ELECTION—COMMISSION FORM OF GOVERNMENT—PRESENT MAYOR—WOMEN VOTE FOR CITY OFFICES IN 1915—MINORITY REPRESENTATION—FIRE DEPARTMENT—WINNEBAGO ENGINE COMPANY—WASHINGTON ENGINE COMPANY—UNION ENGINE COMPANY—ROSTER OF FIRE MARSHALS—FIRE STATIONS—MODERN APPARATUS—A CREDITABLE ORGANIZATION—POLICE DEPARTMENT—ROSTER OF POLICE CHIEFS—A FINE ORGANIZATION AS A WHOLE—IMPROVED EQUIPMENTS—CITY ENGINEERS—STREET PAVING—HEALTH DEPARTMENT—BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS—BONDED INDEBTEDNESS—APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1916—CITY OFFICERS, 1852-1916.

CONTEMPORARY EVENTS.

Three nearly contemporary events contributed to the progress of Rockford from the simple village to its more commanding position as a city. These were the advent of the railroad, the organization of the new water power company, and the incorporation of Rockford as a city. As early as 1851 the citizens realized that the local government, organized as a village in 1839, was no longer adequate to meet the needs of the rapidly increasing population. In the autumn of that year steps were taken for the organization of a city government. In pursuance of a call signed by Jason Marsh, G. A. Sanford, Willard Wheeler, Isaiah Lyon, George Wyatt, Newton Crawford, C. I. Horsman, W. A. Dickerman, W. P. Dennis, Jesse Blinn and William Hulin, a meeting was held and it was deemed advisable at this conference to submit the question of city organization to a vote of

the citizens. The trustees of the town thereupon ordered an election for this purpose to be held January 3, 1852. The city government of Springfield, Ill., was adopted as a basis of organization.

The first election under the new order was held April 19, 1852. The candidates for mayor were Willard Wheeler and E. H. Potter. The election resulted in the choice of Mr. Wheeler. The first meeting of the city council was held on Monday, April 26, at the counting room of Eleazer H. Potter. William Lathrop was appointed city clerk. An ordinance was passed creating the following city officers: clerk of the council, attorney, treasurer, marshal, assessor, collector, engineer, and two street commissioners. These officers were to be appointed annually by the city council at its first regular meeting after the annual municipal election. The assessors and collectors were subsequently made elective officers. At the second session of the council, held May 1, the following city officers were appointed: William Lathrop, attorney; Hiram R. Maynard, treasurer; Duncan Ferguson, city engineer.

CITY'S FIRST BOND ISSUE.

An act of the legislature of June 18, 1852, authorized the city of Rockford to borrow money, not exceeding \$10,000, for the purpose of constructing a bridge. Bonds were to be issued, in the sum of \$100 each, bearing interest not exceeding 10 per cent, and were to be redeemed within twenty years from issue. This sum was evidently insufficient for the purpose; and an act of the legislature of February 3, 1853, authorized the city to borrow a maximum sum of \$15,000. Bonds were to be issued in sums not exceeding \$1,000 each, payable within twenty years, and to draw interest not exceeding 10 per cent. The act of 1852 was repealed. The second or covered bridge was built in 1854, with the funds derived from the sale of bonds the preceding year. This bridge stood until December, 1871, when it was torn down and succeeded by the first iron bridge.

In the election of 1853 Hiram R. Maynard was elected mayor. He came to Rockford in 1837 with his brother-in-law, Benjamin Kilburn. Mr. Maynard conducted a general store in a one-story frame building on South Main street, just below the Masonic temple. It was subsequently

used by C. A. Huntington as an academy, and the Second Congregational church was organized in this building. A daughter of Mr. Maynard became a local Salvation Army worker.

SPECIAL CHARTER SECURED.

A special character was granted to the city by the legislature March 4, 1854. By this act the general law of 1849 was declared to be no longer in force, so far as Rockford was concerned, except for the purpose of supplementing proceedings had or commenced, so as not to impair the legal consequences of any past transaction. This charter was amended February 14, 1855, April 26, 1859, and February 22, 1861. "An act to reduce the charter of the city of Rockford, and the several acts amendatory thereof into one act and to revise and amend the same," was approved February 15, 1865. Rockford was governed by this charter until the city was reorganized under the general law. This general law, enacted in 1872, repealed the general law of 1849, and abolished the system of special charters. Between these dates there appear to have been two methods for the incorporation of cities in force at the same time: by a general law and by a special charter. The evolution of legislation in Illinois, from the special to the general, is an interesting study to the student of political history.

In 1854 national politics played a part in the choice of mayor, and U. M. Warner was elected on the Democratic ticket. Mr. Warner carried on a general store on West State street with Hiram R. Maynard, and later was in business alone. Mr. Warner built the block now occupied by C. F. Henry, and Warner's hall was the popular lecture and concert hall for many years. Ralph Waldo Emerson and other celebrities lectured there. H. S. and Charles F. Warner were sons.

NEW WARD DIVISION.

Edward Vaughn was the fourth mayor of Rockford, and was elected in 1855. Mr. Vaughn was in partnership with his brother-in-law, Charles F. Lewis, father of Fay, Harry W. and C. Herbert Lewis. They conducted a general store on the site of Armstrong's clothing store. Since the last municipal election the city had been divided into five wards, with boundaries as

follows: First, all that part of the city lying north of State street and east of the river; second, all that part of the city lying south of State street and east of the river; third, all that part of the city lying south of State street, west of the river and north of Kent's Creek; fourth, all that part of the city north of State street and west of the river, and fifth, that part of the city south of Kent's Creek and west of the river.

James L. Loop was elected mayor of Rockford in 1856. Mr. Loop came to Rockford in 1852 from Belvidere, where he was a partner in the practice of law with his brother-in-law, Stephen A. Hurlbut. The salary of the mayor was determined from year to year and Mayor Loop's compensation for the year ending in April, 1856, was fixed at \$150. In the election of 1857 William Brown was chosen mayor by a decisive majority. Mr. Loop was a candidate for re-election but failed to secure one-third of the total vote. Seely Perry was elected mayor in 1858, receiving 590 votes. His opponent was Dr. R. P. Lane. For the first time the mayor's inaugural address was published in full.

THE LICENSE QUESTION.

The election of 1859 resulted in the choice of Charles Williams for mayor. The sale of intoxicants was more of an issue than at any previous election. The council was favorable to license, but the majorities for aldermen in the several wards were so divided that they did not actually represent public sentiment as a unit. The incoming council repealed a somewhat stringent ordinance that had been passed a few months before. On March 21, 1859, L. W. Burnham, the retiring city clerk, reported that the outstanding bonds of the city amounted to \$49,144.95, on which 8 and 10 per cent interest was paid. The tax levies for the first few years under the new municipal regime was as follows: 1854, 7½ mills on each dollar of taxable property, both real and personal; 1855, 10 mills on each dollar; 1856, 1¾ per cent on each dollar; in 1857, 1½ per cent; 1858, 1⅝ per cent; 1859, 2½ per cent; 1860, 2 per cent; 1861, 2 per cent. It will be observed the rate increased each year up to 1859.

Charles Williams was re-elected mayor in 1860. The election of 1861 occurred within a week after the bombardment of Fort Sumter.

The spirit of unity showed itself in the unanimous choice of Charles Williams for mayor for a third term.

Municipal history during the Civil war and for several years thereafter may be briefly told. The elections of these latter years, which are preceded by "campaigns of education," present a sharp contrast to those of half a century ago. The official records at the city hall tell the plain, unvarnished story of victory and defeat; and the burrower into the past turns to the files of the newspapers for the color of flesh and blood that give human interest to all narrative. He is sometimes disappointed; but he remembers that the enthusiasm of the people in the sixties was directed to the supreme issue of saving the union, in which lesser interests were absorbed, as the sea receives lake and river.

The election of 1862 resulted in the choice of every city official for another term. The retiring council had been prudent in the management of affairs, without being niggardly, and the people were satisfied. Charles Williams was elected mayor for a fourth term and in the election of 1863 Rockford conferred still greater honor on Charles Williams by electing him mayor for a fifth term. Three of these were given without opposition, and were a rare tribute to his personal worth and official integrity. He will be remembered as Rockford's "war mayor."

Albert Fowler was elected mayor of Rockford in 1864, Mr. Williams having declined another term. Mr. Fowler gave the city a creditable administration, with good moral tone, and he was re-elected mayor in 1865 without opposition.

Mayor Fowler declined a third term. The contest for his successor was spirited and called out a large vote. It was also unique, in that the two candidates came from the same family. E. H. Baker was elected by a majority of 424 over Charles H. Spafford, who was an uncle of Mrs. Baker. Mr. Baker was father of Edward W. Baker, now representing the Fifth Ward in the city council. Mr. Baker was a candidate for re-election in 1867, and was opposed by his immediate predecessor, Mr. Fowler, who was elected. In 1868 Mr. Fowler and Mr. Baker were again in the field, with Thomas Butterworth as a third candidate. Mr. Baker was elected.

In 1868 the council authorized the numbering of houses. The work was done as a private enterprise by Kauffman & Company. A city di-

rectory was published as early as 1857, but it located residents only by streets.

The campaign of 1869 was unusually spirited and called out the largest vote ever polled up to that time. The issue was license or no-license. A. I. Enoch was the no-license candidate and defined his position in the newspapers. Personally he opposed the license system. Should the council grant licenses he would sign them as mayor, but in case of a tie he would decide against license. Seymour G. Bronson was supported by the license party, and was elected. The political pendulum swung to the other extreme in 1870, and Mr. Bronson was re-elected mayor without opposition.

SEVEN WARDS CREATED.

The year 1871 was signalized by increasing the number of wards from five to seven, each represented by one alderman. An ordinance passed March 6 fixed the boundaries as follows:

First Ward—That part of the city north of State street and east of the river. Second Ward—From city bridge on State street to Kishwaukee, thence to Chicago and North-Western track, thence to Seventh street, thence south following Seventh to city boundary, thence west to river, thence to city bridge. Third Ward—That part of the city lying south of State street, west of the river and north of Kent's creek. Fourth Ward—From the city bridge west on State street to Court, thence to Cherry, thence to Rockton avenue, thence to city boundary, thence east following boundary to river, thence along river to bridge. Fifth Ward—That part of the city lying south of Kent's creek and west of the river. Sixth Ward—From East State following Kishwaukee to center of Chicago and North-Western track, thence to center of Seventh street, thence south to boundary of city, thence east to southeast corner of city boundary, thence north on the eastern boundary to State, following State west to intersection with Kishwaukee. Seventh Ward—From West State, following Court north to Cherry, thence to Rockton avenue, thence to north boundary of city, thence west along boundary to northwest corner of city boundary, thence south, following boundary to West State, thence east to Court.

In 1872 Mr. Bronson was elected mayor for the fourth and last time. When Mayor Bron-

son retired from office he was presented a watch and chain by the city clerk, Jason Marsh, in behalf of the council. This expression of good will was accentuated by the fact that Mr. Bronson was a Democrat, while practically all of his colleagues were Republicans.

Gilbert Woodruff and John Lake were candidates for mayor in 1873. The saloons were closed on election day, and a large vote was polled, which resulted in the election of Mr. Woodruff. The custom of appointing a banker or bank attache for city treasurer was established in an early day and the precedent has been continued in rotation to the present. E. L. Fuller, G. A. Sanford, A. C. Spafford, N. C. Thompson, R. P. Lane, Melancthon Starr, D. S. Penfield and George E. King were early-day bankers. The administration of Gilbert Woodruff had given such general satisfaction that he was re-elected mayor in 1874 without material opposition. In the spring of 1875 there was a movement to abandon the old city charter, and re-incorporate under the general law. A petition was presented to the city council to submit the question to a referendum vote. The committee on ordinances, to which the petition was referred, recommended that action be deferred.

Robert H. Tinker was elected mayor in 1875. Mr. Tinker was called the "boy candidate." He was thirty-nine years of age, and was the youngest man who had been chosen to the mayoralty up to that time. He is today the oldest living former mayor in order of service. A change was made in 1875 in the method of filling appointive offices. Up to that time the council had taken the initiative and the mayor had no voice, except in case of a tie. The new law provided that nominations should be made by the mayor and confirmed by the council.

LICENSE BECOMES PARAMOUNT ISSUE.

Beginning with 1876 and continuing several years, the sale of intoxicants was the paramount issue in municipal elections. For a few years after the city was incorporated liquors appear to have been sold without restriction, like sugar and flour. The first reference in the council journal to an application for a saloon license is that made by John H. Thurston, June 2, 1856. June 27, 1859, the council refused to raise the license from \$25 to \$100,

and as late as 1866 Rockford charged only a nominal license fee. The twenty-third section of the twentieth article of the city charter contained the following provision: "The common council shall have power to regulate, tax, license, restrain, prohibit, suppress and punish within said city, the dealing in, sale, or giving away of wine, rum, gin, brandy, whisky, ale, beer and all other ardent spirits, or intoxicating liquors, whether distilled, fermented, brewed or compounded." Thus the power of the council over the traffic was absolute. The real problem was therefore, whether it should be regulated or prohibited. Many of Rockford's representative citizens of that day believed in the license system. It would be unfair to say that they were in sympathy with the business. Historic justice requires it to be said that they honestly believed that license under restrictions was the best way of regulating the traffic.

Levi Rhoades was the candidate for the no-license party for mayor in 1876. The license party nominated Seymour G. Bronson. The result was a decisive victory for Mr. Rhoades and no-license. He carried six of the seven wards, and received a total of 1,291 votes. Mr. Bronson carried the Third Ward, and his total was 918. Three no-license aldermen were chosen: Gilbert Woodruff, from the Second; E. L. Woodruff, from the Fourth, and Harris Barnum from the Sixth. Mr. Crawford, who held over from the Seventh, was for no license. Thus the council was four to three in favor of the prohibitive policy. H. W. Rowell was chosen city clerk, to succeed Jason Marsh, who had served nine years; L. F. Warner was made city attorney; George H. Trufant, treasurer. Mr. Rhoades was a candidate for re-election in 1877, on the platform of the previous year. His opponent was Duncan Ferguson, who was elected. Public opinion is like the ebb and flow of the sea. Changes come when recurrent storms play upon the surface. At such times it is well to remember that beneath the restless wave is the calm level of the sea from which all heights and depths are measured. In 1878 the ship of state listed to the license side, after sailing two years in the no-license channel. Levi Rhoades was a candidate for a third time. The license forces nominated William Watson, and he was elected. The new council stood: License, 4; no-license, 3. The

license party held a ratification meeting in Brown's hall.

"COLOSSUS OF RHO(A)DES."

The writer did his first newspaper work in Rockford during this campaign, and recalls a memorable incident. In a drug store on West State street there was exhibited a large cartoon, entitled "Colossus of Rho(a)des" which attracted the attention of every passerby. It was an up-to-date reproduction of one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. There was the gigantic statue standing at the entrance of the harbor, but the form and features were those of Levi Rhoades. Twenty years later the writer called on R. H. Tinker and in referring to "auld lang syne," he went to an old desk and drew out the historic picture. It was not until then that the writer knew Mr. Tinker was the artist.

"Never in the municipal life of Rockford was there such a Waterloo result of an election as was returned yesterday." This was the comment of the Daily Register of April 14, 1879, the day following the annual city election. After one year of the license regime the pendulum swung the other way. S. B. Wilkins, as the standard bearer of the no-license party, was elected mayor over Seely Perry. The campaign of 1880 resulted in the re-election of Mayor Wilkins.

INCORPORATE UNDER GENERAL LAW.

Ever since 1875, when the petition for incorporating under the general law had been sidetracked by the city council, the agitation had been gaining momentum. In the spring of 1880 a second attempt was made, which was successful. There were contributions pro and con published in the daily press. The night before election a mass meeting was held at the courthouse. William Lathrop made the principal address, in which he dwelt upon the complications that had arisen under the old system of a special charter for each municipality. H. W. Taylor, L. F. Warner, and John C. Garver also urged the proposed change, and Dr. E. C. Dunn plead for the existing plan. The election was held June 8, 1880. That was the day James A. Garfield was nominated for President of the United States by the convention

at Chicago. The intense excitement incident to the breaking of the prolonged deadlock in the convention had its effect upon the vote on the local issue. Every ward in the city, however, voted for the change. There were 1,121 votes cast for the general law, and 510 against it. This total represented only about one-half the voting strength of the city. There were 1,528 votes cast against minority representation and 71 in its favor.

The election of 1881 was the first under the general law. This fact would of itself awaken unusual interest. Moreover, there was to be a clean sweep in all elective offices. There were to be two aldermen from each ward, instead of one. The choice of fourteen city legislators at one election, besides a mayor and other officials, created a situation without precedent. The election was a squarely fought contest on the issue of license or no-license. The campaign was signalized by the submission of a referendum vote on the question of license, in which women were allowed a vote. At a meeting of the city council held March 7, 1881, a committee representing the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, through Mrs. B. Foltz, presented the following petition:

"To the mayor and council of the city of Rockford: We, the undersigned, men and women of Rockford, believe that women should be granted a voice in deciding whether we are to have dram-shops among the institutions of our city, and we earnestly desire that provision be made by special ordinance, for a vote on the question of legalizing the liquor traffic here, and that in such vote the women be invited to share."

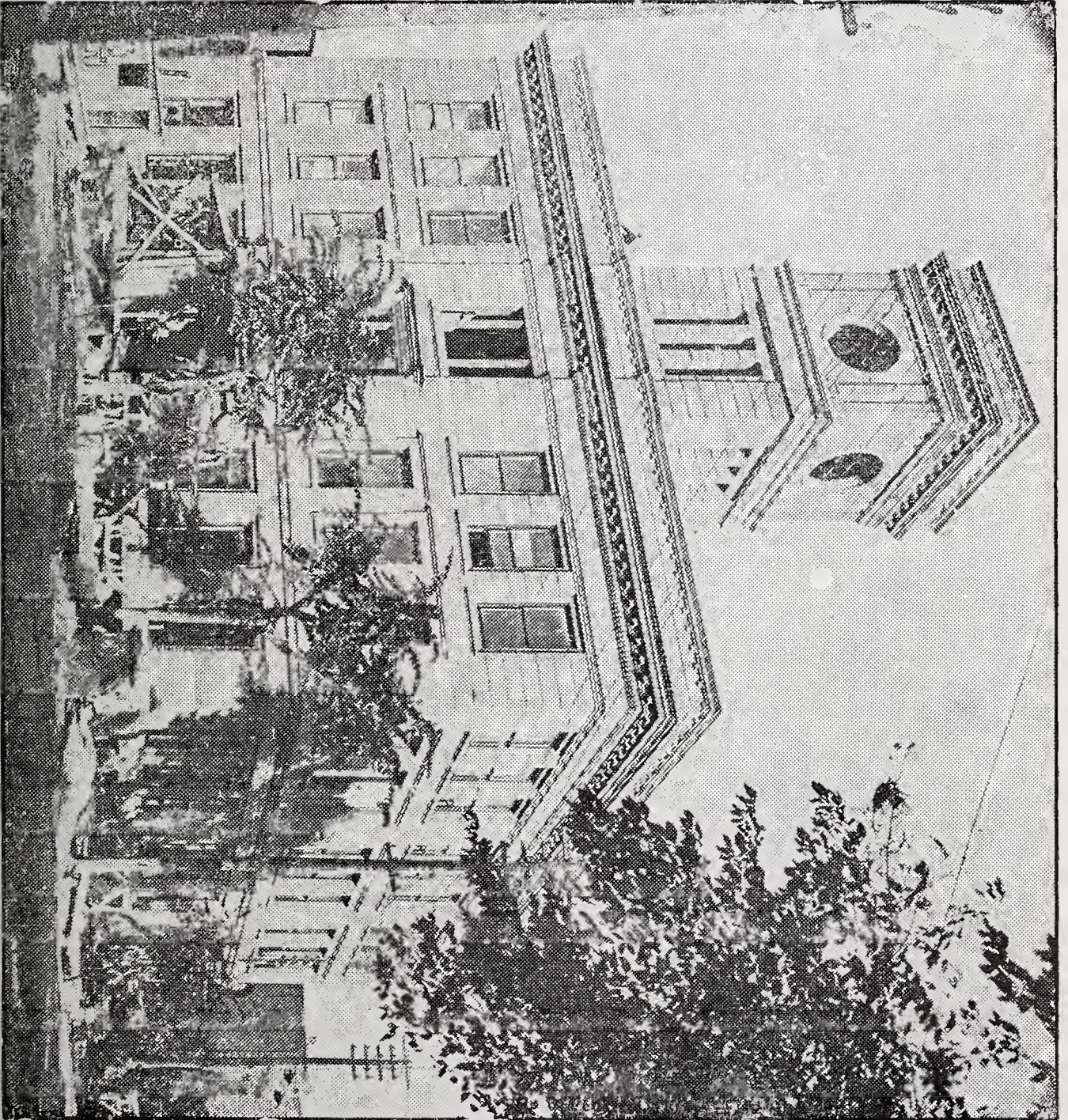
This petition bore the signature of 1,152 legal voters, and 2,347 women over twenty-one years of age. William Lathrop, Melancthon Starr and Rev. J. K. Fowler addressed the council in behalf of the petitioners. At the meeting of the council March 28, the committee on ordinances, to whom the petition was referred, presented a favorable report, and the council passed the ordinance by a unanimous vote. The ordinance provided that license might be granted if a majority of those voting should so decide, and not otherwise. A. Bronson Alcott, of Concord fame, visited Rockford a few days before election and expressed himself earnestly in behalf of women voting on the question.

Prominent citizens, representing all shades of opinion on the license question, united in a petition to S. P. Crawford, asking that he be a candidate for mayor. The license convention acquiesced in the choice of Mr. Crawford and he was elected.

HIGH LICENSE LAW.

Mayor Crawford was the first to serve a two-year term under the general law. He was public spirited and zealous for Rockford's prestige. His administration was progressive and a model of municipal efficiency. He made improvements in the police and fire departments and he was recognized as a resourceful leader. Notwithstanding these facts there developed a determined opposition to his re-election. He was charged with extravagance when the bonded debt of the city was practically up to the constitutional limit. The reactionaries also took alarm from the proposal to build a city hall, and the additional expense of improved school equipment. Moreover, Mayor Crawford's opposition to the license system was a factor in the situation.

The passage of the Harper high license law in June, 1883, was an advance in restrictive legislation in Illinois. It fixed the minimum price for a dram-shop license at \$500, with \$150 for the sale of malt liquors only. The municipal campaign of 1883 was conducted during the discussion of the Harper bill, whose passage was only a matter of time and detail. The opposition to Mayor Crawford concentrated on Alfred Taggart, an exponent of high license, and these stalwart characters were pitted against each other on election day. The result is told in these figures: Taggart, 1,360; Crawford, 1,195; Taggart's majority, 165. With the Harper bill about to become a law, and a mayor and council in sympathy with restrictive rather than prohibitory legislation, the high license system became thoroughly established in Rockford, and with the exception of a single year, it so continued for a quarter of a century. The license fee was fixed at \$600, which was \$100 more than in 1881-'82. Among the acts of the retiring council were the adoption of resolutions in honor of former Mayor Fowler, who died April 12; and the passage of an ordinance fixing the salaries of city officers for the



CITY HALL, ROCKFORD



POSTOFFICE, ROCKFORD



ELKS' CLUB, ROCKFORD

ensuing two years. The salary of the mayor was made \$250.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS CONSOLIDATED.

Early in Mayor Taggart's administration public attention was directed toward important changes in the public school system. It was proposed to reorganize under the general school law. Mayor Taggart opposed this plan and March 17, 1884, addressed a special message to the council urging the consolidation of the two school districts and other important changes. The council passed an ordinance embodying these recommendations. Meanwhile the question of adopting the state law was submitted to a referendum vote, and at the municipal election in April the plan was defeated. An incident of the election was the retirement of E. M. Holmes, of the Palmer Hardware Company, as alderman from the First Ward, to be succeeded by T. F. Palmer, the senior member of the same firm.

The spirited campaign of 1885 was an echo of the preceding presidential election. In 1884 James G. Blaine, the "plumed knight," and idol of the Republican party, was defeated by Grover Cleveland by such a meagre plurality that the result might have been attributed to any one of half a dozen causes. The Prohibitionists, with John P. St. John as their standard-bearer, had drawn from the Republican party in the states, and in New York had cast a vote sufficient to turn the scale against Blaine. The wrath of Republicans in Rockford knew no bounds, and Prohibitionists, even more than Democrats, were the objects of their displeasure. Strict party lines were never so sharply drawn in local affairs before nor since that time. Republican caucuses were held in the several wards for the nomination of a general ticket and aldermen in the several wards. Alfred Taggart was the unanimous choice for a second term as mayor. The Prohibitionists, although they were in a hopeless minority, accepted the challenge and made a determined fight. Their caucus named John W. Hart for mayor. Mr. Taggart possessed various elements of strength. He had made an excellent record as mayor; he was in sympathy with the high license policy, which was then in force; he had led the way toward a solution of the school problem and he was the candidate of the Re-

publican organization. Mr. Taggart was re-elected by a majority six times greater than he received two years before. The council was ten to twelve in favor of license. The event of Mayor Taggart's second administration was furnishing Rockford with a pure-water supply by means of artesian wells. He presented the subject in his second inaugural, and received the co-operation of the council. Before the close of the year water from well No. 1 was turned into the pumping pit.

Toward the close of Mayor Taggart's second term he announced that he would not be a candidate for re-election. He remained in office until he realized his ambition in giving the city more efficient schools and an artesian water supply. Alfred Taggart was a plain, modest, incorruptible man. He gave Rockford constructive administrations, that have never been surpassed, if equaled, by any other mayor.

The feature of the election of 1886 was the choice of L. L. Morrison for police magistrate. Mr. Morrison came to Rockford in 1883, completed his study of law in the office of Marshall & Taggart, and was admitted to the bar in October of the same year. He carried four wards; R. G. McEvoy carried two and F. Steinback one. Mr. Morrison made a remarkable canvass, and the expression of confidence in him, within less than three years after his arrival in the city, was an unusual tribute. Through repeated elections and his original methods of administering justice, Mr. Morrison established a unique reputation as a terror to evil-doers.

The mayoralty contest of 1887 was quite unlike the one immediately preceding. The retributive zeal of the Republicans had subsided, and even the license issue was practically ignored. The candidates were H. C. Scovill and W. L. Harbison. The preference shown by the voters was more or less a personal matter. The fact that the East side had not supplied a mayor since Gilbert Woodruff thirteen years before doubtless gave Mr. Scovill an advantage and his majority was 1,348, the largest that had ever been received by any mayoralty candidate. Mr. Scovill and Mr. Harbison retained a warm personal friendship, and only a few months ago Mr. Harbison said to the writer, "The best man won." Mr. Scovill brought to the mayor's office a thorough acquaintance with municipal affairs, obtained through long service in the council.

LICENSE RAISED TO \$1,000.

The question of higher saloon license came before the new council. It was proposed to raise it to \$1,000. The aldermen were a tie, and Mayor Scovill gave the casting vote for the higher sum, and \$1,000 remained the fee until the license system was abolished by invoking the local option law. The license fee was fixed in 1878 at \$250; in 1881 and 1882 it was \$500 and from 1883 to 1887 it was \$600. The campaign of 1888 was of unusual interest for an "off year." The advent of Mead Holmes in the council was an incident of especial note. He was a retired Presbyterian clergyman who had acquired a fortune by investments in Rockford realty. He was a unique character.

The first important duty of the new council was a re-adjustment of the interminable license question. Beginning with 1888 the calendar year had been made the fiscal year, instead of the twelve months ending April 30, as formerly. The budget had been made up in January on the basis of revenue from license, and failure to derive income from this source would require other measures. The question was therefore one of unusual interest. Every member of the council was present. It was a great night for orators, budding and full blown, and each one made the most of his opportunity. Mead Holmes had entered the council as an unknown quantity. His record was against license, and he represented a constituency of that faith. He was known, however, to have a leaning toward high license. His course was therefore a matter of great solicitude to both factions, as the council was so evenly divided. Alderman Holmes made a characteristic speech. He quoted Shakespeare, and referred to Caesar, Wellington and William H. Seward, and finally landed on his feet in "dear old Rockford," and voted against license, making the council a tie. Mayor Scovill cut the Gordian knot and cast his decisive vote against license altogether. The legalized saloon was abolished in Rockford for one year. Within a twelve-month Mayor Scovill had seized both horns of a dilemma with the grip of a sane and consistent leader.

Mayor Scovill was a candidate for re-election on his former no-license platform in 1889. His opponent was Captain John H. Sherratt, who carried every ward in the city, and received 2,201 votes. The council stood on the supreme

issue: nine for license, five for no-license. Both were high-minded citizens, veterans of the Civil war, in whose integrity the people had absolute confidence.

Mayor Sherratt, in his inaugural, urged the importance of public parks. "Already, in some parts of the city," he said, "the cottage and garden have given place to the flat, and the children have no place but the street for exercise and fresh air." He advised the purchase of land for this purpose, because prices were rapidly advancing. Captain Sherratt was a business man, to whom public life made no appeal. When the office was thrust upon him he discharged the trust with dignity and the keenest sense of personal and official honor. It is said he opposed one measure because it might advance his personal interest. He was a gentleman of the old school, a mayor of the finest type. He believed he had done his duty in one term and declined to be a candidate for re-election.

FIRST STREET PAVING.

Rockford paved its first street during Mayor Sherratt's administration. In 1889 State street was paved with cedar blocks eastward from the river a distance of 1,730 feet, at a net cost of \$13,749. In the following year 1,775 feet of similar paving was laid on West State street, and 3,775 feet on South Main street. Another public work of this period was the girder bridge on State street.

"THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE."

An issue hitherto unknown in Rockford was paramount in the election of 1891. It was "the little red school house." In 1887 a lawyer named Bowers organized a league in Clinton, Iowa, called the American Protective Association, and popularly known as the "A. P. A." Its purpose was to restrict immigration and check the activities of any particular religious sect. Its growth was phenomenal throughout the country and several lodges were instituted in Rockford. Overtures were made to H. N. Starr as an available candidate for mayor. He accepted the nomination and announced a platform which, considering a time and circumstances, was exceedingly conservative. Mr. Starr said: "I believe that no religious sect

should interfere with our free school system. If elected mayor I will not remove any faithful officials because they are Catholics, and Protestants need not expect favor if I believe them to be incompetent or unfaithful." He warned voters against statements purporting to come from him that did not bear his signature, and announced that in case of a tie in the council on the license question, he would vote for a fee of \$1,000. Mr. Starr received 1,792 votes and was elected. One of the Rockford newspapers made this comment on the election: "It was the most remarkable and exciting civic contest that has ever occurred in the history of the city, and may be set down as the beginning of a new era in municipal elections." It proved beyond doubt that the question of religion was one of abounding interest to a class of citizens sufficiently strong to elect any candidate they supported. They were ready to sink all other considerations when they had persuaded themselves that the permanency of the public school system was endangered.

APPOINTS WOMEN ON BOARD.

Mayor Starr was the first mayor to recognize women in appointments to office. He appointed Mrs. D. S. Clark and Mrs. H. W. Taylor members of the school board. Mrs. Seely Perry, Mrs. Clara G. Sanford and Miss Sarah Anderson, who was then principal of Rockford Seminary, were appointed members of the library board. Mayor Starr's precedent was a just recognition of women's pre-eminent place in educational work.

The election of 1892 was limited to the choice of seven aldermen. There were nine license aldermen, and five for no-license. There had been such a change, however, in the popular vote, that the no-license party considered the result a moral victory. The license vote of the city was 1,710; for no-license, 2,164, a majority of 454. Four of the five no-license aldermen in the new council had come from Swedish wards.

History repeated itself in the election of 1893. Amasa Hutchins was the candidate of the A. P. A. organization for mayor. He was a native of the county, a veteran of the Civil war, and had served six years as sheriff. He was considered a keen politician and a "vote-getter." His opponents were former Mayor Tag-

gart and E. H. Marsh. Mr. Hutchins' vote amazed his townsmen, his plurality being 374. The council stood eight for license and six for no-license.

FAMOUS FIGHT WITH CHIEF HEFFRAN.

The event of Mayor Hutchins' administration was his controversy with Fire Marshal Heffran, which was not decided by the court of last resort until after he had retired from office. One of Mayor Hutchins' appointments was that of Stephen T. Julian as fire marshal, to succeed Edward B. Heffran. Under the circumstances of the mayor's election it was supposed that his desire to remove Mr. Heffran was due to religious considerations. The right of the mayor to make his own appointments had been conceded heretofore, but in this instance the mayor found himself out of sympathy with the council. The appointment of Mr. Julian was neither confirmed nor rejected, but was tabled by a vote of nine to five, and was not acted upon thereafter. Mr. Heffran continued to hold the office for another year. Mayor Hutchins again nominated Mr. Julian, and the council rejected it by a vote of eleven to three. The mayor then nominated Frank F. Peats and Frank E. Thomas, who were in turn also rejected by the same vote. This serious matter was not without its amusing phase. Mayor Hutchins refused to sign Heffran's salary warrants, and they were unpaid for several months. The mayor was called from the city for a time for some days. The law provides that a member of the council shall perform his functions in his absence. This duty devolved upon Alderman Kimball, and he promptly signed all of Heffran's warrants on the city treasury.

HEFFRAN GETS INJUNCTION.

May 7, 1894, Mayor Hutchins removed Mr. Heffran, ordered him to vacate the office and turn over the property of the department in his possession to a subordinate. The mayor threatened to forcibly eject him if he refused to obey. It was then the fire marshal's turn to act. On the following day he asked for an injunction restraining the mayor from forcibly ejecting him from the office. In the absence of all the judges from the circuit, a temporary injunction was granted by H. W. Taylor, master in

chancery. On a motion to dissolve before Judge Crabtree, the temporary injunction was made permanent, and an order to this effect was filed November 2, 1894. Mr. Heffran had won the first two skirmishes in the battle.

Mayor Hutchins took an appeal to the Appellate court. The opinion of the court was delivered by Justice Parker January 24, 1895. It directed the Circuit court to dissolve the injunction, and dismiss the bill for want of equity.

SUPREME COURT SUSTAINS HUTCHINS.

Mr. Heffran had sustained his first defeat and appealed from the Appellate to the Supreme court. The opinion of this court was delivered by Justice Phillips March 28, 1896. The decision of the Appellate court was affirmed, and Mayor Hutchins' right of removal was thoroughly established. Attorneys John C. Garver and A. E. Fisher were counsel for Mayor Hutchins and N. C. Warner and A. H. Frost appeared for Mr. Heffran.

Mayor Hutchins, in his farewell message to the council May 6, 1895, made this reference to the case: "In all kindness permit me to say that I firmly believe the mayor should have the right to make his own appointments and I think the Supreme court will be of the same opinion." Honors were even in this celebrated case. Mayor Hutchins' principle was vindicated, but not in time to make it of any practical value to him; while Chief Heffran retained his office through the entire administration.

In 1895 Mayor Hutchins was a candidate for re-election. His opponent was Edward W. Brown, who was recognized as the strongest available candidate of the opposition. Mr. Brown is a native of Rockford, had served as alderman several years, and had been a factor in various business enterprises. He was thus able to rally various elements to his support. The contest was not a skirmish, however, but a real battle, and Mr. Brown was elected by the narrow margin of 54 votes and was re-elected in 1897. His second election was bitterly contested, with two opposing candidates. Charles J. Kinnie, who had served several terms as county superintendent of schools, was supported by the A. P. A. organization. Dr. E. C. Dunn was the third aspirant. Every newspaper in the city supported Mr. Brown, and he

was returned with a plurality of 469. For the first time in the history of the city since it had been an issue, there was a solid license council, and this status on the question was maintained in 1898.

Mayor Brown's third election in 1899 was won after a spirited contest.

ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR CITY.

Mayor Brown gave Rockford three constructive administrations. In his first inaugural address he made this promise: "It will be my aim during my administration to at all times work for the interests of our city." He redeemed this pledge to the letter. One of the first problems to receive Mayor Brown's attention was that of lighting the city. Rockford was then paying \$20,000 in round numbers to the Gas Light and Coke company. The contract would expire in July, 1896, and the mayor recommended that the city make provision for erecting and operating its own electric light plant. During the next year he corresponded with 150 cities in the United States which were lighted by contract, besides a number that operated their own plants. The council, however, did not fully endorse the mayor's program. In his second annual message Mayor Brown announced that a contract for five years had been made with the Rockford General Electric company for 360 arc light lamps, to be lighted every night in the year, at \$52 per light. The city was to erect its own pole line, at a cost of about \$20,000. The contract was to become operative July 15, 1896. This arrangement proved satisfactory, and in 1901 the contract was renewed for another five years.

Mayor Brown's administrations followed a period of widespread financial depression, beginning with 1893. The blow fell heavily upon Rockford. During Mayor Brown's incumbency there was a change for the better and large sums of money were expended in local improvements. The city spent \$141,048.59 for new school buildings. Two grade buildings, the Kishwaukee and the Turner, were erected, and an addition made to the high school. There was used for school maintenance an average of \$89,000 a year, or \$534,000. Two additional artesian wells were bored, and other improvements made to increase the water supply. The city built twelve miles of macadamized streets



C. C. Jones.

by special assessment, and more than nine miles under the old method of the city paying the entire cost. The office of superintendent of streets was abolished and the duties assigned to the city engineer. The city acquired by gift a strip of land 125 feet wide on the west bank of the river, and built a fine macadam road. This spot is known as Waterworks park.

In 1898 the council provided by ordinance for the board of local improvements, under the law passed in 1897. The first board consisted of Mayor Brown, Fred E. Sterling and Edwin Main. This board passes upon all proposed improvements before they come before the council. In 1899 the council created the office of corporation counsel, and R. G. McEvoy received the first appointment. Among the various recommendations made by Mayor Brown was a large trunk sewer on each side of the river, so that all sewage could be emptied below the dam. He also urged the organization of a business men's association. Near the close of Mayor Brown's third term he indicated that he would not consider another term. He had already served longer than any predecessor, and was content with this record. On the evening of April 4, a farewell banquet was given in the mayor's honor at the Nelson House. The guests were city officials and newspaper men.

In the election of 1901 former Mayor Hutchins and James T. Joslin were candidates for mayor. Mr. Hutchins was given the largest vote ever received by any candidate up to that time and received an unprecedented majority. The figures were: Hutchins, 4,269; Joslin, 2,232; Hutchins' plurality, 2,037. It is said Mr. Hutchins received support from the element which he had especially opposed six years before. The religious issue was practically eliminated. There was submitted to the voters the question of authorizing the city to provide annually by taxation a special fund for park purposes. The proposition was defeated by a vote of 1,247 to 1,111, a majority of 136. The election of 1902 was without notable incident.

CONTROVERSY OVER LIBRARY SITE.

Mayor Hutchins was fated to have stormy administrations. The feature of his second term was the controversy over the location of the Carnegie public library. The mayor did not

take the initiative in the affair; it was forced upon him by a train of unusual circumstances. March 6, 1901, Andrew Carnegie, through his secretary, sent a letter to the late O. F. Barbour, in which he proposed to give the city of Rockford \$60,000 for a public library building, on condition that the city appropriate not less than \$8,000 annually for the maintenance of the library. March 11, 1901, the city council passed a resolution accepting the gift with its conditions.

Many sites were promptly offered, and bitter contention for the building arose between the East and West sides. This situation continued several months, and the library board deferred decisive action. Meanwhile citizens of the West side purchased the so-called "gas site," and tendered a deed thereof to the city. Individual subscriptions amounted to \$9,000 and the Gas Light and Coke company contributed \$2,000. The gift was accepted by the city January 13, 1902. The council was a tie. The aldermen voting aye were Love, Butterworth, Crowell, Ogilby, Dunn and Clarke. Those voting nay were Aldermen Jackson, Nash, William Johnson, A. G. Johnson, Pearson and Olson. Alderman Sterling was excused from voting and Alderman Pendergast was absent. Mayor Hutchins voted aye, and thus broke the deadlock and the building went to the West side.

Bradley & Carpenter, Rockford architects, made the plans, and June 16, 1902, the city entered into a contract with W. H. Cook for its construction for \$49,746.

JOHN BUDLONG ASKS INJUNCTION.

At this point Hon. John Budlong filed a petition in the Circuit court, asking for a temporary injunction to restrain the city council from erecting the library building on the "gas site." Mr. Budlong contended that the library board had exclusive authority, under the law, to select a site, approve plans, and award contracts. Several other points set forth by Mr. Budlong were purely technical. One of these was to the effect that the city council had accepted the site by resolution, rather than by ordinance. His attorneys were Hon. Samuel Alschuler, who is now a federal judge, E. D. Reynolds and C. W. Ferguson.

The case was argued before Judge Donnelly, in chambers, at Woodstock, July 7, 1902. R.

K. Welsh was counsel for the city, and A. D. Early appeared for Contractor Cook. Mr. Welsh made a comprehensive argument. He maintained that Mr. Carnegie's offer was made directly to the city of Rockford, that the city had accepted it, and that it was not within the province of the library board to act in the premises. Mr. Welsh emphasized his contention by quoting a letter addressed to Mayor Hutchins by Mr. Bertram, secretary to Mr. Carnegie, in which he said the donor could not go beyond the documents forwarded by the city authorities.

INJUNCTION IS DENIED.

Judge Donnelly, in a decision filed July 29, 1902, denied an injunction, and thus decided the case for the city. His opinion was written with a lead pencil on a small piece of unruled print paper, and is on file in the circuit clerk's office. The library board may have possessed the legal right to refuse to accept the building from the city, but it never seriously considered such drastic action.

The general law for the incorporation of cities, villages and towns made minority representation in the common council optional with the voters. It provided that on petition of the voters equal to one-eighth of the vote cast at the next preceding election, the council shall submit the question to a popular vote. Early in 1902 prominent citizens of East Rockford agitated the question of minority representation. This action was taken in the belief that the East side would secure rights proportionate to its larger population. A petition was presented to the council February 3, 1902. A special election was held September 30, of the same year, and the innovation was adopted by the overwhelming vote of 3,358 to 988. Such a decisive victory was not expected by the most ardent propagandists. February 23, 1903, the city council passed an ordinance dividing the city into five wards, each to be represented by three aldermen. The first election under the new system was held in April, 1903. The candidates for mayor were Charles E. Jackson and C. L. Dewey. The latter was nominated by the Socialist party. Mr. Jackson was elected by a vote of 4,191 to 2,288, with a plurality of 1,903. H. C. Scovill was elected city clerk; L. M. Reckhow, attorney; and W. F. Woodruff, treasurer.

WARD BOUNDARIES.

The ward boundaries under minority representation were:

First Ward embraces all that part of the city north of Fifth avenue and Charles to east limits and east of Sixth to State, east to North Second, North Second from Rural to Caroline and north of Caroline to limits.

Second Ward all south of Bluff, College avenue, Fifth avenue and Charles from the river east to limits.

Third Ward north of Bluff, College avenue and Fifth avenue to Sixth, west of Sixth, East and North Second to Caroline, west to river, south of Fisher avenue to Winnebago, east of Winnebago to Kent Creek and east to the river.

Fourth Ward all north of State west of Winnebago to Fisher avenue and east to the river.

Fifth Ward all south of State west of Winnebago to Kent Creek and east to the river.

The adoption at the election of 1903 of a law passed by the legislature provided for the appointment of a board of fire and police commissioners. This act removed these departments from the direct control of the mayor and council, and placed them under civil service. Mayor Jackson appointed as first members of this board, A. E. Crowell, Dr. D. Lichty and A. V. Comings. This board was the first organized in the state under the new law. C. W. Ferguson was chosen corporation counsel. A notable feature of Mayor Jackson's administration was the erection of the city hall in 1904, at a cost of about \$100,000. A school on Summit street, named in honor of Mayor Jackson, was completed the same year at a cost of \$37,000. Mayor Jackson was re-elected in 1905.

On July 10, 1905, the council passed an ordinance providing for the annexation of Highland. This accession of territory was apportioned between the First and Second wards. The five-year contract with the Rockford Electric company expired in 1906. No steps were taken to erect a plant, and the contract with the electric company was renewed. A notable event of Mayor Jackson's second administration was the re-organization of the school board. The law of 1879 appeared to offer such improvements as were deemed necessary. It provided for a board of education, composed of two members from each ward, and a president from the city at large. November 19, 1906, after test cases

had been sustained by the courts, Mayor Jackson appointed a full board of eleven members. This board is independent of the council, and has the power to levy taxes. The same year the first addition to the high school building was completed.

ORGANIZED LABOR.

Organized labor became a dominant factor in municipal politics for the first time in the spring of 1907. Mark Jardine was its candidate for mayor. His opponents were Mayor Jackson, William Johnson, John M. Clarke and Robert Schmus. The last named was nominated by the Socialists. Mr. Jardine was elected by a plurality of 1,508 over Mayor Jackson. The returns were: Jardine, 3,128; Jackson, 2,620; Johnson, 1,649; Clarke, 416; Schmus, 200. A. Philip Smith was elected attorney; H. C. Scovill, clerk; T. L. Sizer, treasurer.

Mayor Jardine was a candidate for re-election in 1909. Former Mayor Jackson was again his strongest opponent. Other aspirants were E. W. Martin, and John A. Hallden, the nominee of the Socialists. The returns were: Jardine, 4,152; Jackson, 3,075; Hallden, 476; Martin, 44. Mayor Jardine, in his second inaugural, referred to the collection of an annual revenue from public utility corporations as one of the achievements of his first administration. The Interurban company pays a flat rate of \$2,000 annually, and the Rockford Electric company and the Home Telephone company pay a percentage.

FIRST "LOCAL OPTION" ELECTION.

A law of 1907 provided for the creation of anti-saloon territory by referendum vote. The township was made the political unit, rather than the municipality. The first election under this law was held in April, 1908, and the "dry" forces made a clean sweep of Winnebago County. The vote in Rockford Township was 4,807 for, and 4,651 against dry territory, a majority of 156. The "dry" forces were under the general direction of Rev. F. M. Sheldon, pastor of the First Congregational church. His management of the campaign commanded the respect even of his opponents. The question was again submitted in 1910, with the opposite

result. The figures were: Wet, 5,159; dry, 4,949; a wet majority of 210.

COMMISSION FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

In the closing days of 1910 it was proposed to adopt the commission form of government for Rockford, and the question was thoroughly discussed in the daily press. A special election was held Jan. 3, 1911, when the proposition was defeated by the overwhelming vote of 4,028 to 1,097, more than three to one. Only three precincts out of twenty voted for the change. Mayor Jardine's administrations were dignified and conservative.

MAYORALTY ELECTION IN 1911.

High license sentiment had been dominant in the council several years. This status was threatened by the fact that Rockford had already held two elections under the local option law, one going dry and the other wet, and both by meagre majorities. It was under these circumstances that W. W. Bennett became a candidate for mayor in 1911. He had been actively identified with the temperance forces, and was supported by the Anti-Saloon league, which had a strong and efficient organization. Other candidates were Swan O. Widell, Mayor Jardine, Charles Happ and S. L. Nelson. Mr. Bennett was elected by a plurality of 399. The returns were: Bennett, 3,421; Widell, 3,022; Jardine, 1,527; Happ, 717; Nelson, 75. E. A. Wettergren was elected city clerk; A. Philip Smith, attorney; W. B. Mulford, treasurer; A. B. Louison, police magistrate. Mr. Scovill retired from the clerkship after serving fourteen years. He thus held the record for service in that department of the city government. Mr. Louison's first term as magistrate expired in 1910; but owing to the change made by the adoption of minority representation, no election for other officials was necessary that year, and he was thus allowed to serve another year. Mayor Bennett appointed C. W. Ferguson corporation counsel, and F. E. Carpenter, C. H. C. Burlingame and Charles Malm members of the board of fire and police commissioners. One of the early incidents of Mayor Bennett's administration was the annexation of the North End, which was done by an ordinance passed May 8, 1911.

In April, 1912, a third election was held under the local option law, and Rockford Township returned to the dry column by a majority of 307. The vote was 4,720 for anti-saloon territory and 4,413 against. Mayor Bennett was re-elected in 1913, with a plurality of 440 over C. J. Lundberg. O. H. Ogren and Swan Widell were also candidates. The returns were: Bennett, 3,130; Lundberg, 2,690; Ogren, 2,255; Widell, 1,023. D. D. Madden was elected city attorney.

The question of permitting moving picture houses to open on Sunday was submitted to the people, and carried by a vote of 4,712 to 4,066. The city also voted in favor of a special tax for building and maintaining a tuberculosis sanitarium.

In April, 1914, the township again voted under the local option law, and, with the help of the women, was continued in the dry column. The vote: Wet, men, 5,452; women, 1,051; total, 6,503; dry, men, 4,730; women, 6,056; total, 10,786; dry majority, 4,283.

WOMEN VOTE FOR CITY OFFICERS.

For the first time in the history of Rockford women voted in the municipal election of 1915, after the Supreme court had upheld the suffrage law. The candidates for mayor were: W. W. Bennett and Oscar H. Ogren. The attempt was made to get other candidates into the field, and to raise new issues, but issues are born by the logic of events, and not made to order. Unusual complications became simplified, and on election day the only issue was Socialism. Mayor Bennett was endorsed for a third term, receiving 8,356 votes.

MINORITY REPRESENTATION REPEALED.

The proposition to repeal minority representation in the council was carried. The city has been represented for many years by supervisors on the county board, but as their duties do not primarily affect the municipality, the names have not been published in this chapter.

May 1, 1916, the city council divided the city into eight wards to carry out the wishes of the people in repealing minority representation. Each ward will have two aldermen. This ordinance goes into effect September 15, 1916. (See

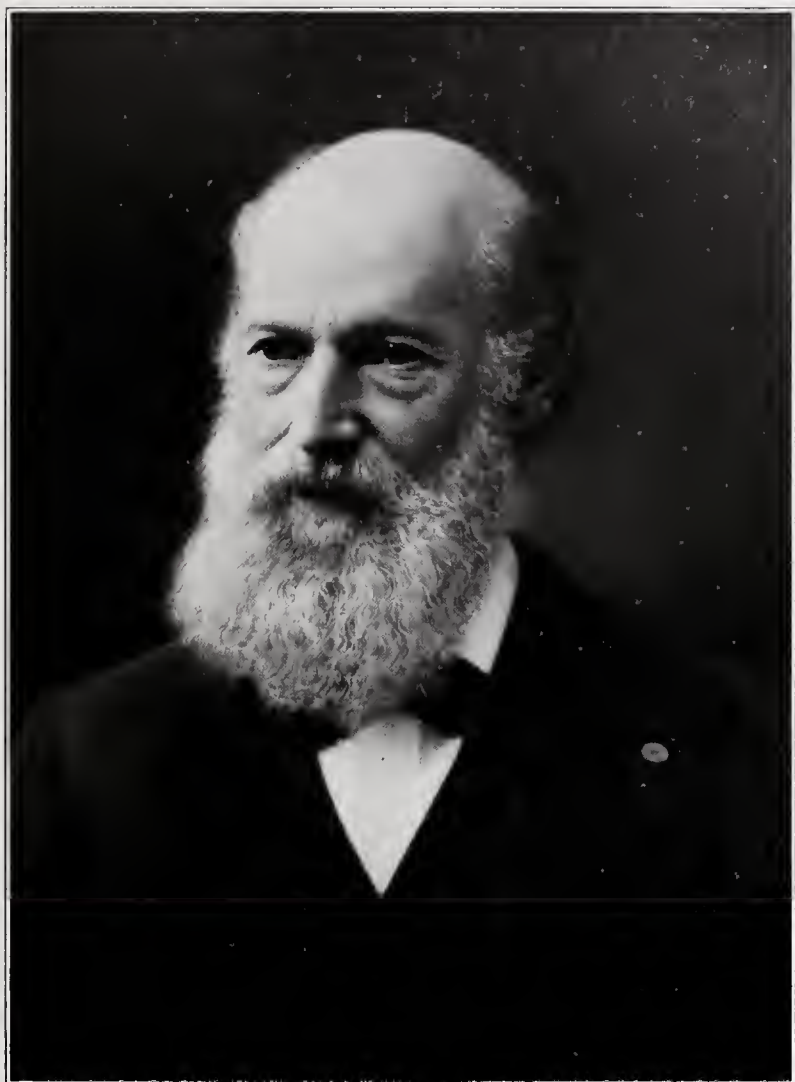
list of city officers at end of this chapter—Supervisors, Chapter forty).

The rapid growth of the city has created unusual demand for improvements. Two artesian wells have been bored, one at the corner of Eleventh street and Eighteenth avenue, and the other, the largest in the city, in Hulin park. There were more than two miles of brick pavement and over five and one-half miles of macadam laid in 1914. The erection of the P. A. Peterson and P. R. Walker grade school buildings and the third addition to the high school are other incidents of Mayor Bennett's administration. The southeast end sewer will be completed this year. Mayor Bennett has maintained a high-minded political consistency in public life. In his advocacy of what he considers the supreme issue he has given no quarter, and asked no favor. By the strange fortune of politics, however, favors have come to him without the asking.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Police regulation is one of the primary functions of government, and is therefore one of the first objects for which provision is made in organized communities. For many years the chief officer in Rockford was known as marshal. As the city became cosmopolitan in all its phases the title was changed to chief of police, about 1894. The succession from May 8, 1852, when the first marshal was chosen, to 1915, is as follows: John Platt, Willard Wheeler, John Travis, James Dame, Ira Barker, William P. Dennis, Joel E. Langdon, Elias C. Roberts, Morris J. Upright, Michael H. Regan, Andrew J. Pennock, Ambrose Halstead, John Fisher, Morris J. Upright, Jeremiah Moshier, Gideon V. Carr, James Dame, Thomas Sully, P. A. Conradt, Thomas Sully, A. W. Webb, Frank Peats, E. L. Tisdale, A. E. Bargren.

Frank Peats, who was appointed by Mayor Sherratt, served only a few weeks, when he accepted an appointment at the Soldiers' Home at Quincy. Major Peats was succeeded by E. L. Tisdale. August E. Bargren, the present chief of police, was appointed a member of the force by Mayor Sherratt in May, 1890, and four years later was made chief of police by Mayor Hutchins, and has given twenty-two years of continuous and efficient service in this important trust. He is progressive and has shown constructive



John M. Kern

ability of a high order. He cannot be lauded for the "enemies he has made," for he has made none. Even violators of the law recognize him as a man among men.

The first police uniforms were ordered May 11, 1881, by Thomas Sully. The suits were made by George R. Atkinson. The first patrol wagon was bought by Mr. Sully in Chicago, September 6, 1883. The city has grown so rapidly that the efficiency of the police department has been hampered by the inadequate appropriation. The addition of the motor patrol in 1914 was of great service to the department, especially in cases of accident and hurry calls. The squad machine has also assisted greatly, especially in making police calls in the residence districts and outskirts. The cost of maintaining the department for the fiscal year 1914 was \$45,170.39. There were 38 men on the payroll of the department December 31, 1914.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

In 1855 steps were taken for the organization of a fire department. Its need had daily become more apparent. A committee, appointed by the city council, purchased four small engines, named Constantine, Alexander, Sevastopol and Nicholas. The Sevastopol was received in the latter part of October, and February 21, 1856, a public trial was made of the engines, all of which had arrived. The result was not altogether satisfactory, and the "machines" with Russian names were discarded. In May and June, Winnebago Engine Company No. 1, and Washington No. 2 were organized, and nearly a year later the efficient engines bearing those names were received. Subsequently Union Engine Company No. 3 was formed, and an engine procured. These three engines constituted the fire apparatus of the city as late as 1869. The Winnebago Engine Company was the east side company, and during its existence numbered some of the most prominent residents of the city in its membership.

The complete roster of chief engineers, or fire marshals, as they have been called in later years, from the organization of the department to date, is as follows: E. F. W. Ellis, Samuel I. Church, M. A. Bartlett, Howard D. Frost, A. G. Springsteen, Gardner S. Allen, Calvin Ford, Charles T. Jellersen, S. A. Granger, Howard D. Frost, James F. Hough, James Chalmers, John

T. Lakin, James F. Hough, Charles Cavanaugh, John T. Lakin, Edward B. Heffran and Frank E. Thomas. Fire limits were established by the council in May, 1864. Volunteer service was rendered a quarter of a century. Early in 1881, during the closing months of Mayor Wilkins' second term, the department was reorganized on a compensation basis. John T. Lakin was appointed fire marshal and served ten years. In 1891 Edward B. Heffran was appointed by Mayor Starr, and served ten years. Frank E. Thomas was appointed by Mayor Hutchins in 1901, and has served fourteen years. He was appointed a member of the department March 15, 1886, and has therefore given thirty years to this branch of the city service. In continuous service Stephen T. Julian, assistant fire marshal, is the dean of the department. He was appointed in 1879 and has therefore served thirty-seven years.

The city has six fire stations. The apparatus of the department on December 31, 1914, consisted of two motor combination chemical and hose cars, two motor pumping engines and hose cars, four horse-drawn combination chemical and hose wagons, four steam fire engines, one motor aerial 75-foot hook and ladder truck, one squad car and Booster pump, chief's car, assistant chief's horse and buggy, twenty-one horses, electrician's horse and buggy, six engine companies, one truck company and one squad company. There are 67 men employed in the fire department of the city. The cost of maintenance for the fiscal year 1914 was \$88,109.41.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Early provision was made for conserving the public health. The first health officer was Newton Crawford, who was appointed June 28, 1854. His successors have been P. B. Crosby, John P. Manny, E. H. Potter, George Haskell, Joel B. Potter, R. P. Lane, A. E. Goodwin, R. H. Paddock, G. H. Platner, Thomas Sully, P. A. Conradt, Thomas Sully, C. E. Oder, W. B. Helm, W. A. Boyd, G. W. Rohr, C. E. Crawford, Emil Lofgren, C. E. Crawford, W. E. Park. In 1893 the title of the office was changed to commissioner of health. The department of health publishes regular quarterly bulletins, which are distributed throughout the schools of the city, and left at stores, specified by the department to be given out by the general public. The department also

published in 1914 an instructive circular on the prevention and cure of tuberculosis, and 10,000 of these circulars were distributed throughout the city. The death rate in Rockford in 1914, estimating the population at 54,000, as returned by the school census, was 10.4, and the birth rate per thousand was 22.0.

CITY ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

The office of city engineer was among the first created by the municipal government. Duncan Ferguson was appointed July 31, 1852. His successors have been Edward H. Graves, T. J. L. Remington, Duncan Ferguson, T. J. L. Remington, Duncan Ferguson, H. L. Tupper, Duncan Ferguson, T. J. L. Remington, Daniel W. Mead, D. C. Dunlap, C. C. Stowell, Edwin Main, S. B. Hand, Edwin Main. Daniel W. Mead was appointed in 1884 and was in office during the installation of the artesian water system. He served until 1889. D. C. Dunlap was engineer in 1890-1891; C. C. Stowell from 1892 to 1897; Edwin Main, 1897 to 1907; S. B. Hand from 1907 to 1911; Edwin Main, 1911 to 1916.

The paving with brick of North and South Main streets, West State street and Kilburn avenue in 1914 completes the system of improvements planned for the paving of the main thoroughfares leading out of the city, with the exception of Kishwaukee, and plans are under way for this improvement.

Rockford had, December 31, 1914, 84.31 miles of improved streets, divided as follows: Asphalt, 1.83; brick, 10.52; macadam, 71.41; concrete, .55. There were 90.29 miles of unimproved streets. The total amount of sewerage was 90.66 miles. Rockford has an area of 6,159 acres. The lowest street level is Loomis street, east of Buchanan street, 92 feet above city datum. The highest street level is the intersection of Peach street and Day avenue, 213 feet above city datum.

ELECTION COMMISSION.

Elections in the city of Rockford are conducted according to an act regulating the holding of elections and declaring the result thereof in cities, villages and incorporated towns in this state, approved June 19, 1885, in force July 1, 1885. This act was adopted by the city at the fall election in 1910 and on November 29

of that year the county judge, Louis M. Reckhow, appointed Hosmer P. Holland, John E. Swanson and John E. Rickert commissioners. Mr. Holland died in the fall of 1912, and was succeeded by Charles E. Axt. Upon first organizing the board appointed L. C. Miller as chief clerk and he is still serving in that capacity.

The distinctive feature of the regulative act is the personal registration, with its accompanying house-to-house canvass. A new general registration is held previous to the general elections in the even numbered years, and no one is allowed to vote until he or she registers, stating his or her residence, name, nativity, term of residence in the precinct, at present address, in county, state and United States; his age, the fact of whether or not he is naturalized, the time and court of such naturalization. A printed list for free distribution is issued immediately after each registration, showing the name and address of every registered voter. This is used by the various party workers, and as each side of every campaign will do its best to prevent anyone from illegally voting for the opposition, the danger of such illegal voting is minimized. Clerks of the board verify every name in their precinct by a house-to-house canvass on the day after registration. Rockford has approximately 20,000 voters; about 12,000 male and 8,000 female.

BONDED INDEBTEDNESS.

The bonded indebtedness of the city of Rockford June 1, 1916, was \$402,300. This includes \$42,500 of the bridge bond issue of \$85,000 authorized in April, 1915, but does not include the bridge bond issue of \$95,000, authorized by a popular vote in April, 1916, which has not yet become an obligation. Besides its bonded debt, Rockford has a considerable floating indebtedness in the form of time orders.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1916.

The city tax levy for 1916 is \$386,686.74; the anticipated revenue is \$367,863.47. The total appropriation for the year is thus \$754,550.21. The school tax levy is \$507,933.07; anticipated revenue, \$113,770.28, making a total appropriation of \$621,703.35. Rockford will therefore expend for municipal and school purposes, \$1,376,-

253.56 during the year 1916. In addition is the tax for state, county, township and park purposes.

ROCKFORD CITY OFFICERS FROM 1852 TO 1916.

1852.

Mayor, Willard Wheeler. Aldermen: First Ward, Sumner Damon; Second Ward, E. H. Potter; Third Ward, H. N. Spaulding; Fourth Ward, C. N. Andrews. Clerk, William Lathrop. Attorney, William Lathrop. Treasurer, H. R. Maynard. Police Marshal, John Platt.

1853.

Mayor, Hiram R. Maynard. Aldermen: First Ward, A. Hitchcock; Second Ward, H. D. Searles; Third Ward, U. M. Warner; Fourth Ward, C. N. Andrews. Clerk, J. K. Farwell. Attorney, L. F. Warner. Treasurer, E. L. Fuller. Police Marshal, Willard Wheeler.

1854.

Mayor, U. M. Warner. Aldermen: First Ward, A. Hitchcock; Second Ward, Jason Marsh; Third Ward, T. D. Robertson; Fourth Ward, Newton Crawford. Clerk, L. F. Warner. Attorney, L. F. Warner. Treasurer, B. G. Wheeler. Police Marshal, John Travis.

1855.

Mayor, Edward Vaughn. Aldermen: First Ward, P. B. Crosby; Second Ward, Jason Marsh; Third Ward, Henry Fisher; Fourth Ward, Newton Crawford; Fifth Ward, John P. Manny. Clerk, S. W. Stanley. Attorney, L. F. Warner. Treasurer, B. G. Wheeler. Police Marshal, James Dame.

1856.

Mayor, James L. Loop. Aldermen: First Ward, P. B. Crosby; Second Ward, P. Howes; Third Ward, T. D. Robertson; Fourth Ward, Isaac Andrus; Fifth Ward, J. G. Manlove. Clerk, H. H. Hatch. Attorney, Orrin Miller, Jr. Treasurer, G. A. Sanford. Police Marshal, Ira Barker.

1857.

Mayor, William Brown. Aldermen: First Ward, John Spafford; Second Ward, P. Howes; Third Ward, D. D. Alling; Fourth Ward, Isaac Andrus; Fifth Ward, J. G. Manlove. Clerk, Edward Vaughn. Attorney, James M. Wight.

Treasurer, G. A. Sanford. Police Marshals, W. P. Dennis, J. E. Langdon.

1858.

Mayor, Seely Perry. Aldermen: First Ward, John Spafford; Second Ward, George Troxell, Jr.; Third Ward, D. D. Alling; Fourth Ward, H. W. Loomis; Fifth Ward, J. G. Manlove. Clerk, L. W. Burnham. Attorney, H. D. Adams. Treasurer, A. C. Spafford. Police Marshal, E. C. Roberts.

1859.

Mayor, Charles Williams. Aldermen: First Ward, R. A. Bird; Second Ward, George Troxell, Jr.; Third Ward, Daniel Dow; Fourth Ward, H. W. Loomis; Fifth Ward, J. G. Manlove. Clerk, Porter Sheldon. Attorney, Porter Sheldon. Treasurer, A. C. Spafford. Police Marshals, M. J. Upright, M. H. Regan.

1860.

Mayor, Charles Williams. Aldermen: First Ward, R. A. Bird; Second Ward, Benjamin Wingate; Third Ward, Daniel Dow; Fourth Ward, J. S. Coleman; Fifth Ward, J. G. Manlove. Clerk, R. C. Bailey. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, A. C. Spafford. Police Marshal, A. J. Pennock.

1861.

Mayor, Charles Williams. Aldermen: First Ward, C. W. Sheldon; Second Ward, Benjamin Wingate; Third Ward, Daniel Dow; Fourth Ward, J. S. Coleman; Fifth Ward, J. P. Manny. Clerk, R. C. Bailey. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, N. C. Thompson. Police Marshal, Ambrose Halstead.

1862.

Mayor, Charles Williams. Aldermen: First Ward, Henry Strong and James B. Howell; Second Ward, Benjamin Wingate; Third Ward, Daniel Dow; Fourth Ward, John S. Coleman; Fifth Ward, J. P. Manny. Clerk, R. C. Bailey. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, N. C. Thompson. Police Marshal, Ambrose Halstead.

1863.

Mayor, Charles Williams. Aldermen: First Ward, Anthony Haines; Second Ward, Benjamin Wingate; Third Ward, E. L. Godfrey; Fourth Ward, G. A. Sanford; Fifth Ward, J. P. Manny. Clerk, R. C. Bailey. Attorney, R. C. Bailey. Treasurer, N. C. Thompson. Police Marshals,

John Fisher, M. J. Upright and Jeremiah Mosher.

1864.

Mayor, Albert Fowler. Aldermen: First Ward, Anthony Haines; Second Ward, John Lake; Third Ward, E. L. Godfrey; Fourth Ward, G. A. Sanford; Fifth Ward, Freeman Graham. Clerk, R. C. Bailey. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, R. P. Lane. Police Marshals, G. V. Carr and James Dame.

1865.

Mayor, Albert Fowler. Aldermen: First Ward, John H. Hall; Second Ward, John Lake; Third Ward, E. L. Godfrey; Fourth Ward, G. A. Sanford; Fifth Ward, Freeman Graham. Clerk, R. C. Bailey. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, R. P. Lane. Police Marshal, James Dame.

1866.

Mayor, E. H. Baker. Aldermen: First Ward, John H. Hall; Second Ward, John Lake; Third Ward, E. L. Godfrey; Fourth Ward, G. A. Sanford; Fifth Ward, Freeman Graham. Clerk, O. A. Pennoyer. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, R. P. Lane. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1867.

Mayor, Albert Fowler. Aldermen: First Ward, L. H. Potter; Second Ward, John Lake; Third Ward, James B. Agard; Fourth Ward, G. A. Sanford; Fifth Ward, Freeman Graham. Clerk, Jason Marsh. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, M. Starr. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1868.

Mayor, Edward H. Baker. Aldermen: First Ward, L. H. Potter; Second Ward, John Lake; Third Ward, James B. Agard; Fourth Ward, G. A. Sanford; Fifth Ward, Freeman Graham. Clerk, Jason Marsh. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, D. S. Penfield. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1869.

Mayor, S. G. Bronson. Aldermen: First Ward, L. H. Potter; Second Ward, John Lake; Third Ward, Henry Fisher; Fourth Ward, G. A. Sanford; Fifth Ward, W. D. Trahern. Clerk, Jason Marsh. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, George E. King. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1870.

Mayor, S. G. Bronson. Aldermen: First Ward, L. H. Potter; Second Ward, John Lake; Third Ward, Henry Fisher; Fourth Ward, G. A. Sanford; Fifth Ward, W. D. Trahern. Clerk, Jason Marsh. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, George E. King. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1871.

Mayor, S. G. Bronson. Aldermen: First Ward, John Spafford; Second Ward, John Lake; Third Ward, T. P. Buell; Fourth Ward, G. A. Sanford; Fifth Ward, N. C. Thompson; Sixth Ward, T. D. Pitkin; Seventh Ward, S. P. Crawford. Clerk, Jason Marsh. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, M. Starr. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1872.

Mayor, S. G. Bronson. Aldermen: First Ward, John Spafford; Second Ward, John Lake; Third Ward, T. P. Buell; Fourth Ward, C. O. Upton; Fifth Ward, N. C. Thompson; Sixth Ward, Ralph Chaney; Seventh Ward, S. P. Crawford. Clerk, Jason Marsh. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, D. S. Penfield. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1873.

Mayor, Gilbert Woodruff. Aldermen: First Ward, John Spafford; Second Ward, D. S. Penfield; Third Ward, Daniel Dow; Fourth Ward, C. O. Upton; Fifth Ward, N. C. Thompson; Sixth Ward, Ralph Chaney; Seventh Ward, S. P. Crawford. Clerk, Jason Marsh. Attorney, W. T. Hyde. Treasurer, Horace Brown. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1874.

Mayor, Gilbert Woodruff. Aldermen: First Ward, John Spafford; Second Ward, Seely Perry; Third Ward, Daniel Dow; Fourth Ward, C. O. Upton; Fifth Ward, N. C. Thompson; Sixth Ward, Ralph Chaney; Seventh Ward, S. P. Crawford. Clerk, Jason Marsh. Attorney, C. M. Brazee. Treasurer, G. A. Sanford. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1875.

Mayor, Robert H. Tinker. Aldermen: First Ward, Anthony Haines; Second Ward, Seely Perry; Third Ward, George E. King; Fourth Ward, C. O. Upton; Fifth Ward, Eliphaz Smith; Sixth Ward, Ralph Chaney; Seventh Ward, S.



A. H. Lanning



Elizabeth Lanning

P. Crawford. Clerk, Jason Marsh. Attorney, E. H. Baker. Treasurer, G. A. Sanford. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1876.

Mayor, Levi Rhoades. Aldermen: First Ward, Anthony Haines; Second Ward, Gilbert Woodruff; Third Ward, George E. King; Fourth Ward, E. L. Woodruff; Fifth Ward, Eliphaz Smith; Sixth Ward, Harris Barnum; Seventh Ward, S. P. Crawford. Clerk, H. W. Rowell. Attorney, L. F. Warner. Treasurer, Geo. H. Trufant. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1877.

Mayor, Duncan Ferguson. Aldermen: First Ward, Anthony Haines; Second Ward, Gilbert Woodruff; Third Ward, George E. King; Fourth Ward, E. L. Woodruff; Fifth Ward, Byron Graham; Sixth Ward, Harris Barnum; Seventh Ward, S. P. Crawford. Clerk, A. P. Wells. Attorney, L. F. Warner. Treasurer, Horace Brown. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1878.

Mayor, William Watson. Aldermen: First Ward, Anthony Haines; Second Ward, H. C. Scovill; Third Ward, George E. King; Fourth Ward, G. S. Haskell; Fifth Ward, Byron Graham; Sixth Ward, Harris Barnum; Seventh Ward, S. P. Crawford. Clerk, A. P. Wells. Attorney, E. B. Sumner. Treasurer, Horace Brown. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1879.

Mayor, Sylvester B. Wilkins. Aldermen: First Ward, Benjamin H. Witwer; Second Ward, H. C. Scovill; Third Ward, George E. King; Fourth Ward, George S. Haskell; Fifth Ward, Henry C. Wilson; Sixth Ward, Harris Barnum; Seventh Ward, S. P. Crawford. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, R. F. Crawford. Treasurer, N. E. Lyman. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully.

1880.

Mayor, Sylvester B. Wilkins. Aldermen: First Ward, Benjamin H. Witwer; Second Ward, Horace C. Scovill; Third Ward, George E. King;

Fourth Ward, George S. Haskell; Fifth Ward, Henry C. Wilson; Sixth Ward, S. A. Johnson; Seventh Ward, S. P. Crawford. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, R. F. Crawford. Treasurer, N. E. Lyman. Police Marshal, P. A. Coonradt. Fire Marshal, John T. Lakin.

1881.

Mayor, Samuel P. Crawford. Aldermen: First Ward, E. M. Holmes, B. R. Waldo; Second Ward, H. C. Scovill, J. M. Southgate; Third Ward, T. J. Derwent, John Belford; Fourth Ward, W. O. Wormwood, George S. Haskell; Fifth Ward, Henry C. Wilson, Levi B. Fuller; Sixth Ward, R. A. Shepherd, C. E. Knudson; Seventh Ward, James Ferguson, Joseph Burns. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, N. C. Warner. Treasurer, Horace Brown. Police Magistrate, Arthur H. Frost. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully. Fire Marshal, John T. Lakin.

1882.

Mayor, Samuel P. Crawford. Aldermen: First Ward, B. R. Waldo, E. M. Holmes; Second Ward, J. M. Southgate, H. C. Scovill; Third Ward, John Belford, T. J. Derwent; Fourth Ward, George S. Haskell, W. O. Wormwood; Fifth Ward, Levi B. Fuller, Lewis Predmore, W. L. Harbison; Sixth Ward, C. E. Knudson, W. H. Miller; Seventh Ward, Joseph Burns, James Ferguson. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, N. C. Warner. Treasurer, Horace Brown. Police Magistrate, A. H. Frost. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully. Fire Marshal, John T. Lakin.

1883.

Mayor, Alfred Taggart. Aldermen: First Ward, E. M. Holmes, Thomas Ennett; Second Ward, H. C. Scovill, J. M. Southgate; Third Ward, T. J. Derwent, B. A. Weber; Fourth Ward, W. O. Wormwood, D. H. Ferguson; Fifth Ward, W. L. Harbison, Thomas Tole; Sixth Ward, W. H. Miller, C. E. Knudson; Seventh Ward, James Ferguson, Joseph Burns. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, N. C. Warner. Treasurer, George E. King. Police Magistrate, A. H. Frost. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully. Fire Marshal, John T. Lakin.

1884.

Mayor, Alfred Taggart. Aldermen: First Ward, Thomas Ennett, Thomas F. Palmer; Second Ward, J. M. Southgate, H. C. Scovill; Third Ward, B. A. Weber, T. J. Derwent; Fourth Ward, D. H. Ferguson, W. O. Wormwood; Fifth Ward, Thomas Tole, W. L. Harbison; Sixth Ward, C. E. Knudson, E. S. Gregory; Seventh Ward, Joseph Burns, James Ferguson. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, N. C. Warner. Treasurer, George E. King. Police Magistrate, A. H. Frost. Police Marshal, Thomas Sully. Fire Marshal, John T. Lakin.

1885.

Mayor, Alfred Taggart. Aldermen: First Ward, Thomas F. Palmer, R. J. Randolph; Second Ward, H. C. Scovill, E. W. Brown; Third Ward, T. J. Derwent, John M. Kennedy; Fourth Ward, W. O. Wormwood, D. H. Ferguson; Fifth Ward, W. L. Harbison, Thomas Tole; Sixth Ward, E. S. Gregory, Thour Munthe; Seventh Ward, James Ferguson, T. F. Hopkins. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, George M. Blake. Treasurer, W. H. McCutchan. Police Magistrate, A. H. Frost. Police Marshal, A. W. Webb. Fire Marshal, John T. Lakin.

1886.

Mayor, Alfred Taggart. Aldermen: First Ward, C. W. Butterworth, Charles Ritchie; Second Ward, E. W. Brown, H. C. Scovill; Third Ward, T. J. Derwent, J. M. Kennedy; Fourth Ward, D. H. Ferguson, Samuel N. Jones; Fifth Ward, W. L. Harbison, G. C. Robertson; Sixth Ward, Wesley D. Clark, Thour Munthe; Seventh Ward, T. F. Hopkins, Thomas W. Cole. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, George M. Blake. Treasurer, W. H. McCutchan. Police Magistrate, A. H. Frost. Police Marshal, A. W. Webb. Fire Marshal, John T. Lakin.

1887.

Mayor, Horace C. Scovill. Aldermen: First Ward, Charles Ritchie, C. W. Butterworth; Second Ward, Edward W. Brown, John L. Clark; Third Ward, W. B. Reynolds, Thomas J. Derwent; Fourth Ward, E. W. Blaisdell, Samuel N. Jones; Fifth Ward, Alvin E. Crowell, Martin Rhoades; Sixth Ward, G. A. Salstrom, Wesley D. Clark; Seventh Ward, Samuel P. Crawford, Thomas W. Cole. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, A. E. Holt. Treasurer, Horace Brown.

Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Police Marshal, A. W. Webb. Fire Marshal, John T. Lakin.

1888.

Mayor, Horace C. Scovill. Aldermen: First Ward, Jeremiah Davis, Samuel P. Chaney; Second Ward, Mead Holmes, Edward W. Brown; Third Ward, Thomas J. Derwent, W. B. Reynolds; Fourth Ward, Willis M. Kimball, E. W. Blaisdell; Fifth Ward, W. L. Harbison, Alvin E. Crowell; Sixth Ward, Wesley D. Clark, G. A. Salstrom; Seventh Ward, Thomas W. Cole, Samuel P. Crawford. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, A. E. Holt. Treasurer, Horace Brown. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Police Marshal, A. W. Webb. Fire Marshal, John T. Lakin.

1889.

Mayor, John H. Sherratt. Aldermen: First Ward, Jeremiah Davis, Wm. G. Bennett; Second Ward, Mead Holmes, Edward W. Brown; Third Ward, Thomas J. Derwent, W. B. Reynolds; Fourth Ward, Willis M. Kimball, Henry N. Starr; Fifth Ward, W. L. Harbison, O. P. Trahern; Sixth Ward, Wesley D. Clark, G. A. Salstrom; Seventh Ward, Thomas W. Cole, Benj. F. Lee. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, Edward H. Marsh. Treasurer, C. O. Upton. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Police Marshal, A. W. Webb. Fire Marshal, John T. Lakin.

1890.

Mayor, John H. Sherratt. Aldermen: First Ward, Jeremiah Davis, W. G. Bennett; Second Ward, Mead Holmes, E. W. Brown; Third Ward, T. J. Derwent, W. B. Reynolds; Fourth Ward, W. M. Kimball, H. N. Starr; Fifth Ward, W. L. Harbison, O. P. Trahern; Sixth Ward, W. D. Clark, G. A. Salstrom; Seventh Ward, T. W. Cole, B. F. Lee. Clerk, E. K. Conkling. Attorney, Edward H. Marsh. Treasurer, C. O. Upton. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Police Marshal, A. W. Webb. Fire Marshal, John T. Lakin.

1891.

Mayor, Henry N. Starr. Aldermen: First Ward, C. H. Woolsey, R. A. Shepherd; Second Ward, A. J. Anderson, E. W. Brown; Third Ward, T. J. Derwent, Z. B. Sturtevant; Fourth Ward, W. M. Kimball, L. A. Weyburn; Fifth Ward, W. L. Harbison, O. P. Trahern; Sixth Ward, W. D. Clark, G. A. Salstrom; Seventh Ward, Thos. W. Cole, D. G. Spaulding. Clerk, F. G. Hogland. Attorney, R. K. Welsh. Treas-

urer, J. D. Waterman. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Police Marshal, E. L. Tisdale. Fire Marshal, Edward Heffran.

1892.

Mayor, Henry N. Starr. Aldermen: First Ward, Robert A. Shepherd, C. Harry Woolsey; Second Ward, Edwards D. Chandler, Andrew J. Anderson; Third Ward, Z. B. Sturtevant, Thomas J. Derwent; Fourth Ward, Lewis A. Weyburn, Willis M. Kimball; Fifth Ward, Oscar P. Trahern, Julius Graham; Sixth Ward, Gustavus A. Salstrom, Carl A. Newburg; Seventh Ward, Daniel G. Spaulding, Hialmer H. Stone. Clerk, F. G. Hogland. Attorney, R. K. Welsh. Treasurer, J. D. Waterman. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Police Marshal, E. L. Tisdale. Fire Marshal, Edward Heffran.

1893.

Mayor, Amasa Hutchins. Aldermen: First Ward, C. H. Woolsey, R. A. Shepherd; Second Ward, A. J. Anderson, E. D. Chandler; Third Ward, T. J. Derwent, Z. B. Sturtevant; Fourth Ward, W. M. Kimball, Wm. Dyson; Fifth Ward, J. Graham, A. E. Crowell; Sixth Ward, G. A. Salstrom, C. A. Newburg; Seventh Ward, H. H. Stone, H. W. Dobson. Clerk, F. G. Hogland. Attorney, R. K. Welsh. Treasurer, W. F. Woodruff. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Police Marshal, E. L. Tisdale. Fire Marshal, Edward Heffran.

1894.

Mayor, Amasa Hutchins. Aldermen: First Ward, R. A. Shepherd, Wm. Knapp; Second Ward, E. D. Chandler, A. J. Anderson; Third Ward, Z. B. Sturtevant, T. J. Derwent; Fourth Ward, Wm. Dyson, W. M. Kimball; Fifth Ward, A. E. Crowell, J. Graham; Sixth Ward, G. A. Salstrom, A. Hollem; Seventh Ward, H. W. Dobson, E. C. Dunn. Clerk, F. G. Hogland. Attorney, R. K. Welsh. Treasurer, W. F. Woodruff. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, Edward Heffran.

1895.

Mayor, E. W. Brown. Aldermen: First Ward, William Knapp, Robert A. Shepherd; Second Ward, Andrew J. Anderson, Gustav V. Lindblade; Third Ward, Thomas J. Derwent, Zebina B. Sturtevant; Fourth Ward, Willis M. Kimball, Frank S. Regan; Fifth Ward, Julius Graham,

Alvin E. Crowell; Sixth Ward, Albert Hollem, Gust Holm; Seventh Ward, Elisha C. Dunn, John Beatson. Clerk, F. G. Hogland. Attorney, R. K. Welsh. Treasurer, C. O. Upton. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, Edward Heffran.

1896.

Mayor, E. W. Brown. Aldermen: First Ward, Robert A. Shepherd, James T. Joslin; Second Ward, Gustav V. Lindblade, Frank G. Stibb; Third Ward, Fred E. Sterling, Thomas J. Derwent; Fourth Ward, Frank S. Regan, Willis M. Kimball; Fifth Ward, Alvin E. Crowell, John Lindsay; Sixth Ward, Gust Holm, J. M. Turner; Seventh Ward, John Beatson, Elisha C. Dunn. Clerk, F. G. Hogland. Attorney, R. K. Welsh. Treasurer, C. O. Upton. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, Edward Heffran.

1897.

Mayor, E. W. Brown. Aldermen: First Ward, James T. Joslin, Robert A. Shepherd; Second Ward, Frank G. Stibb, Hannes Lawson; Third Ward, Thomas J. Derwent, Fred E. Sterling; Fourth Ward, Malcolm A. Love, Stanton A. Hyer; Fifth Ward, John Lindsay, W. L. Harbison; Sixth Ward, J. M. Turner, John A. Bowman; Seventh Ward, Elisha C. Dunn, R. G. McEvoy. Clerk, H. C. Scovill. Attorney, M. M. Corbett. Treasurer, P. F. Schuster. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, Edward Heffran.

1898.

Mayor, E. W. Brown. Aldermen: First Ward, R. A. Shepherd, J. A. Nash; Second Ward, Hannes Lawson, F. E. Pearson; Third Ward, F. E. Sterling, H. J. Gallagher; Fourth Ward, S. A. Hyer, M. A. Love; Fifth Ward, W. L. Harbison, J. F. Ogilby; Sixth Ward, J. A. Bowman, A. G. Larson; Seventh Ward, R. G. McEvoy, E. C. Dunn. Clerk, H. C. Scovill. Attorney, M. M. Corbett. Treasurer, P. F. Schuster. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, Edward Heffran.

1899.

Mayor, E. W. Brown. Aldermen: First Ward, J. A. Nash, R. A. Shepherd; Second Ward, F. E. Pearson, William Johnson; Third Ward, H. J. Gallagher, F. E. Sterling; Fourth Ward, M. A. Love, W. C. Butterworth; Fifth Ward, J. F.

Ogilby, W. L. Harbison; Sixth Ward, A. G. Larson, Nels Olson; Seventh Ward, E. C. Dunn, J. M. Clarke. Clerk, H. C. Scovill. Attorney, M. M. Corbett. Corporation Counsel, R. G. McEvoy. Treasurer, F. F. Wormwood. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, Edward Heffran.

1900.

Mayor, E. W. Brown. Aldermen: First Ward, R. A. Shepherd, John A. Nash; Second Ward, Wm. Johnson, F. E. Pearson; Third Ward, F. E. Sterling, E. F. Pendergast; Fourth Ward, W. C. Butterworth, M. A. Love; Fifth Ward, W. L. Harbison, J. F. Ogilby; Sixth Ward, Nels Olson, A. G. Johnson; Seventh Ward, J. M. Clarke, E. C. Dunn. Clerk, H. C. Scovill. Attorney, M. M. Corbett. Corporation Counsel, R. G. McEvoy. Treasurer, F. F. Wormwood. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, Edward Heffran.

1901.

Mayor, Amasa Hutchins. Aldermen: First Ward, John A. Nash, Charles E. Jackson; Second Ward, F. E. Pearson, Wm. Johnson; Third Ward, E. F. Pendergast, F. E. Sterling; Fourth Ward, M. A. Love, W. C. Butterworth; Fifth Ward, J. F. Ogilby, A. E. Crowell; Sixth Ward, A. G. Johnson, Nels Olson; Seventh Ward, E. C. Dunn, J. M. Clarke. Clerk, H. C. Scovill. Attorney, C. O. Carbaugh. Corporation Counsel, George M. Blake. Treasurer, Norman F. Thompson. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, F. E. Thomas.

1902.

Mayor, Amasa Hutchins. Aldermen: First Ward, Charles E. Jackson, F. B. McKenney; Second Ward, William Johnson, F. E. Pearson; Third Ward, F. E. Sterling, J. H. O'Garr; Fourth Ward, W. C. Butterworth, W. M. Kimball; Fifth Ward, A. E. Crowell, J. F. Ogilby; Sixth Ward, Nels Olson, G. A. Johnson; Seventh Ward, J. M. Clarke, Robert Lathrop. Clerk, H. C. Scovill. Attorney, C. O. Carbaugh. Corporation Counsel, R. K. Welsh. Treasurer, Norman F. Thompson. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, F. E. Thomas.

1903-1904.

Mayor, Charles E. Jackson. Aldermen: First Ward, C. H. Woolsey, C. J. Lundberg, Gust Holm; Second Ward, A. J. Anderson, F. E. Pearson, Nels Olson; Third Ward, William Johnson, F. J. Leonard, W. C. Butterworth; Fourth Ward, J. M. Clarke, W. M. Kimball, Robert Lathrop; Fifth Ward, J. F. Ogilby, E. F. Carty, H. D. Ticknor. Clerk, H. C. Scovill. Attorney, L. M. Reckhow. Corporation Counsel, Charles W. Ferguson. Treasurer, W. F. Woodruff. Police Magistrate, L. L. Morrison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, F. E. Thomas.

1905-1906.

Mayor, Charles E. Jackson. Aldermen: First Ward, C. H. Woolsey, C. J. Lundberg, P. H. Reynolds; Second Ward, Nels Olson, O. W. Paulson, J. A. Peterson; Third Ward, William Johnson, J. A. Nash, J. T. Joslin; Fourth Ward, W. M. Kimball, E. C. Dunn, C. H. C. Burlingame; Fifth Ward, J. F. Ogilby, E. F. Carty, W. L. Harbison. Clerk, H. C. Scovill. Attorney, L. M. Reckhow. Corporation Counsel, Charles W. Ferguson. Treasurer, Burt J. Chaney. Police Magistrates, L. L. Morrison (1905), A. B. Louison (1906). Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, F. E. Thomas.

1907-1908.

Mayor, Mark Jardine. Aldermen: First Ward, C. J. Lundberg, Charles Malm, P. H. Reynolds; Second Ward, N. P. Nelson, F. E. Pearson, O. W. Paulson; Third Ward, F. J. Leonard, J. T. Joslin, H. F. Patrick; Fourth Ward, L. M. Smith, C. H. C. Burlingame, E. F. Wilson; Fifth, Joseph Sullivan, E. F. Carty, W. L. Harbison. Clerk, H. C. Scovill. Attorney, A. P. Smith. Corporation Counsel, Robert Rew. Treasurer, T. L. Sizer. Police Magistrate, A. B. Louison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, F. E. Thomas.

1909-1910.

Mayor, Mark Jardine. Aldermen: First Ward, Alexander McLaren, W. B. Tynan, Swan O. Widell; Second Ward, F. E. Pearson, Oscar H. Ogren, A. E. Anderson; Third Ward, F. J. Leonard, J. T. Joslin, W. F. Warner; Fourth Ward, E. F. Wilson, W. W. Bennett, M. T. Storen; Fifth Ward, W. L. Harbison, Charles Andrews, Jr., Joseph Sullivan. Clerk, H. C. Scovill. At-



Henry A. Latham.

torney, A. P. Smith. Corporation Counsel, Robert Rew. Treasurer, F. F. Wormwood. Police Magistrate, A. B. Louison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, F. E. Thomas.

1911-1912.

Mayor, W. W. Bennett. Aldermen: First Ward, Gust Peterson, E. P. Barrett, John A. Hallden; Second Ward, O. H. Ogren, A. E. Anderson, William Stenlund; Third Ward, F. J. Leonard, J. T. Joslin, W. F. Warner; Fourth Ward, E. F. Wilson, E. E. Smith, M. T. Storen; Fifth Ward, W. W. Dickinson, Joseph Sullivan, Charles Andrews, Jr. Clerk, E. A. Wettergren. Attorney, A. P. Smith. Corporation Counsel, Charles W. Ferguson. Treasurer, W. B. Mulford. Police Magistrate, A. B. Louison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, F. E. Thomas.

1913-1914.

Mayor, W. W. Bennett. Aldermen: First Ward, Gust Peterson, W. B. Tynan, E. P. Barrett; Second Ward, C. F. Johnson, William Stenlund, Aug. Walgren; Third Ward, John A. Croon, C. N. Haime, Alexander McLaren; Fourth Ward, E. F. Wilson, W. F. Murphy, E. E. Smith; Fifth Ward, W. L. Harbison, H. J. Gallagher, J. T. Hooley. Clerk, E. A. Wettergren. Attorney, D. D. Madden. Corporation Counsel, Charles W. Ferguson. Treasurer, James D. Taylor. Police Magistrate, A. B. Louison. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, F. E. Thomas.

1915-1916.

Mayor, W. W. Bennett. Aldermen: First Ward, Aug. Swanson, Gust Peterson, W. H. Boom; Second Ward, C. H. Johnson, Aug. Walgren, George Blomgren; Third Ward, C. N. Haime, Alexander McLaren, O. L. White; Fourth Ward, E. F. Wilson, E. E. Smith, W. F. Murphy; Fifth Ward, E. W. Baker, L. S. Fuller, H. T. Gallagher. Clerk, E. A. Wettergren. Attorney, D. D. Madden. Corporation Counsel, Charles W. Ferguson. Treasurer, T. L. Sizer. Police Magistrate, B. W. Norton. Chief of Police, A. E. Bargren. Fire Marshal, F. E. Thomas.

CHAPTER XXV.

ROCKFORD'S PUBLIC UTILITIES.

ROCKFORD STREET RAILWAY COMPANY—ORGANIZED IN 1880—WEST END STREET RAILWAY—ORGANIZED IN 1890—CONSOLIDATED SYSTEMS—ROCKFORD CITY RAILWAY COMPANY—ROCKFORD TRACTION COMPANY—ROCKFORD RAILWAY, LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY—ROCKFORD & BELVIDERE ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY—ROCKFORD & INTERURBAN RAILWAY COMPANY—ROCKFORD & FREEPORT ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY—ROCKFORD, БЕЛОIT & JANESVILLE RAILROAD—ROCKFORD CITY TRACTION COMPANY—WATER WORKS SYSTEM—ARTESIAN WELLS—SUPERINTENDENTS—ROCKFORD GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY—EARLIEST IN THE FIELD—ORIGINAL COST—PRESENT STATUS—ROCKFORD ELECTRIC COMPANY—CENTRAL UNION TELEPHONE COMPANY—HOME TELEPHONE COMPANY.

ROCKFORD STREET RAILWAY COMPANY.

The Rockford Street Railway Company was organized in the latter part of 1880, with a capital of \$20,000. January 21, 1881, the secretary of state authorized Anthony Haines, Charles O. Upton and James Ferguson as commissioners to open books for subscriptions to stock. The original stockholders were: Anthony Haines, H. H. Robinson, James Ferguson, C. O. Upton, C. M. Brazee, R. F. Crawford, Levi Rhoades, N. E. Lyman, George H. Trufant, J. S. Ticknor, A. D. Forbes, E. L. Woodruff, John Barnes and John Lake. Of this number three are living: H. H. Robinson, R. F. Crawford and John Barnes. The first directorate was chosen February 9, 1881, at the office of Holland, Ferguson & Co., and consisted of the following named gentlemen: C. M. Brazee, A. D. Forbes, Levi Rhoades, C. O. Upton, R. F. Crawford, A. Haines and John Barnes. On the following day the directors elected A. Haines, president; Levi Rhoades, vice-president; H. H. Robinson, secretary; G. H. Trufant, treasurer. The company was organized under the general corporation act of April 18, 1872, and a charter was obtained for ninety-nine years. June 27,

1881, a franchise was granted by the city council, and the promoters had no difficulty in securing the right of way. The records of the company, now in possession of H. H. Robinson, contain this modest paragraph, under date of July 6, 1881:

"Moved by A. D. Forbes that the company proceed to make necessary arrangements to build a street railway from or near the corner of Montague and South Main streets in South Rockford to a point at or near where South Fourth street crosses the Chicago & Northwestern railway in East Rockford, Ill. Motion seconded and carried."

The original track began on Fourth avenue, at its intersection with Fourth street, running to Kishwaukee, thence to State, from State to South Main, extending on the latter to its intersection with Montague. September 26, 1881, the capital stock was raised to \$40,000, and December 27, 1883, the capital was increased to \$80,000. With a larger fund at its disposal, the company extended its track to the north gate of the fair ground. This line, however, was authorized by the original franchise. The east side line was also extended on Fourth avenue to Seventh street, thence to the Northwestern railroad crossing. The company operated a double track on State street. When the first line was nearly completed an amusing question arose whether horses or mules should be used to draw the cars. The directorate was a tie, and President Haines gave the casting vote in favor of the horse. The company employed no conductors. Passengers were supposed to drop their nickel or ticket in the box.

The company made some money during the first six years. The enterprise, however, failed to pay when the lines were extended to the sparsely settled portions of the city. In 1889 H. W. Price, who had become a director, and one of the greatest of our city builders, negotiated a sale whereby the property of the old company passed into the hands of a syndicate at sixty cents on the dollar. "Judge" R. N. Baylies became president, and the name of the corporation was changed to the Rockford City Railway Company. Electricity supplanted the slow but faithful horse, and a metropolitan street railway system was rapidly developed.

WEST END STREET RAILWAY.

During the winter of 1890 a number of gentlemen became actively interested in the expansion of the city in what is now known as the "West End." It was proposed to construct a street railway, in the belief that it would increase the demand for lots and eventually build up a prosperous suburb. The leader in this movement was the late James S. Ticknor, who became president and secretary of the company. His son, Frank A., was secretary and superintendent.

The West End Street Railway Company was organized in 1890, with a capital of \$50,000, which sum was subsequently increased. A franchise was obtained without serious opposition, although there was an animated controversy over the kind of rail to be used, which finally resulted in the choice of the girder type, which the company had advocated. The first line was the West End loop, which started from the intersection of Elm and South Main streets, west on Elm to Cleveland avenue, north on Cleveland avenue to School street, west on School to Johnson avenue, south on Johnson avenue to Anderson street, east on Anderson and Preston streets to South Avon, and north on South Avon to Elm. The South Rockford line began on Elm street, running west to Church, south on Church to Cedar, west on Cedar to Winnebago, south on Winnebago to Montague. The third line was begun at the intersection of Chestnut and Wyman streets, running north on Wyman to Mulberry, west on Mulberry to Horsman, north on Horsman to Locust, west on Locust to Kilburn avenue, north on Kilburn avenue to School street. Later the line was extended on Mulberry to Avon, north on Avon to School, and east on School to connect with the first line terminus.

In 1892 the east side line was built. It began at the intersection of Church and Chestnut streets, east on Chestnut and Walnut streets to Third, north on Third to Market, east on Market to North Fourth, north on North Fourth to Benton, east on Benton to Longwood, north on Longwood to Rural street. The East Side line was subsequently extended on Market to the intersection of Charles and East State, and east on Charles to Eleventh street. When all its lines were completed the West End company had a greater mileage than the City Railway,

but many of them were not on the main thoroughfares. The road was supplied with electric power throughout. The West End loop and South side lines paid well. The enterprise, however, was not successful, and lost a fortune for its president and his family. The financial stringency of 1893 was especially severe in Rockford, and the West End company could not stem the adverse tide. In 1895 the property of the company passed into the hands of a receiver. The mortgage was foreclosed, and the property was bid in by John Farson, who represented the bondholders.

CONSOLIDATED SYSTEMS.

The Rockford City Railway Company was organized in 1890. Upon the foreclosure of the West End Street Railway Company in 1895 the line was owned and operated by the Rockford Traction Company. The Rockford Railway, Light and Power Company was organized in 1898 by the consolidation of the Rockford City Railway Company and the Rockford Traction Company. The Rockford & Belvidere Electric Railway Company was organized in 1900, and the line was completed in November, 1901. The Rockford & Interurban Railway Company was incorporated in the autumn of 1902, as a consolidation of the Rockford & Belvidere Electric Railway Company and the Rockford Railway, Light and Power Company. It was capitalized at \$1,000,000, with the following officers: R. N. Baylies, president; John Farson, vice-president; G. G. Olmstead, secretary; W. F. Woodruff, treasurer; T. M. Ellis, general manager. An interurban line was completed to Freeport in 1904, which was operated by a separate organization called the Rockford & Freeport Electric Railway Company. The Rockford, Beloit & Janesville railroad was a third interurban line operating between Rockford and Janesville. All these lines were subsequently consolidated into one system.

June 10, 1909, the entire system, including the city and the three interurban lines, was sold to the Commonwealth Power Railway and Light Company, an eastern syndicate. Mr. Ellis retired as general manager, and was succeeded by Chester P. Wilson, who served from November, 1909, to November, 1910. He was succeeded by W. C. Sparks, the present manager. April 1, 1911, the Rockford City Traction Company was

organized to operate the city lines. There are nearly four hundred men in the employ of the Rockford and interurban railway system. The Traction Company operates thirty miles of track, and there are ninety miles in the several interurban lines. W. H. Lemons is secretary of the interurban and traction companies.

WATER WORKS SYSTEM.

Rockford has always controlled its own water supply. The earliest agitation, however, contemplated conferring this privilege upon a corporation of local citizens. This was the usual method in those days, and still prevails in several neighboring cities; but Rockford set an example in the ownership of this public utility that has been vindicated by the supreme test, that of practical experience.

In 1868 Goodyear A. Sanford went to Auburn, N. Y., to investigate the Holly system of water works which had been installed in that city. Mr. Sanford was favorably impressed with the system, and upon his return reported his observations to the city council. That was the day of special legislation in Illinois. Every charter granted in the state was the direct act of the legislature itself. On March 29, 1869, an act was passed by the General Assembly to incorporate the Rockford Water Works Company. The object of the corporation "is and shall be the supply of the city of Rockford and the inhabitants thereof with water." The incorporators were: Goodyear A. Sanford, Ralph Emerson, Robert P. Lane, Thomas D. Robertson, William A. Knowlton, Norman C. Thompson, Moses Bartlett, John P. Manny, Isaac Utter, David S. Penfield, A. C. Spafford, Levi Rhoades, Gilbert Woodruff, John Lake and Selden M. Church. The capital stock was to be \$50,000, but it might be increased to any sum not exceeding \$500,000. The charter reserved to the city the right to purchase the property right and franchise of the corporation at any time within ten years after the corporation had laid one mile of pipe. The charter required that the entire sum of \$50,000 must be actually subscribed before the organization of the company could be effected. Although there was continued agitation of the subject, very little progress was made for several years. A meeting of the incorporators was held July 4, 1870, when \$30,000 stock was taken, and by the middle of the month the stock was nearly all subscribed.

On January 13, 1873, the council refused to ratify a contract with the water works company, by a vote of four to three, and on April 21 the special waterworks committee of the council was discharged, after all negotiations had failed. The city and the corporation were unable to decide upon a plan of action. Thus ended in failure the attempt to confer the water supply franchise upon a private corporation. It practically had an existence only on paper.

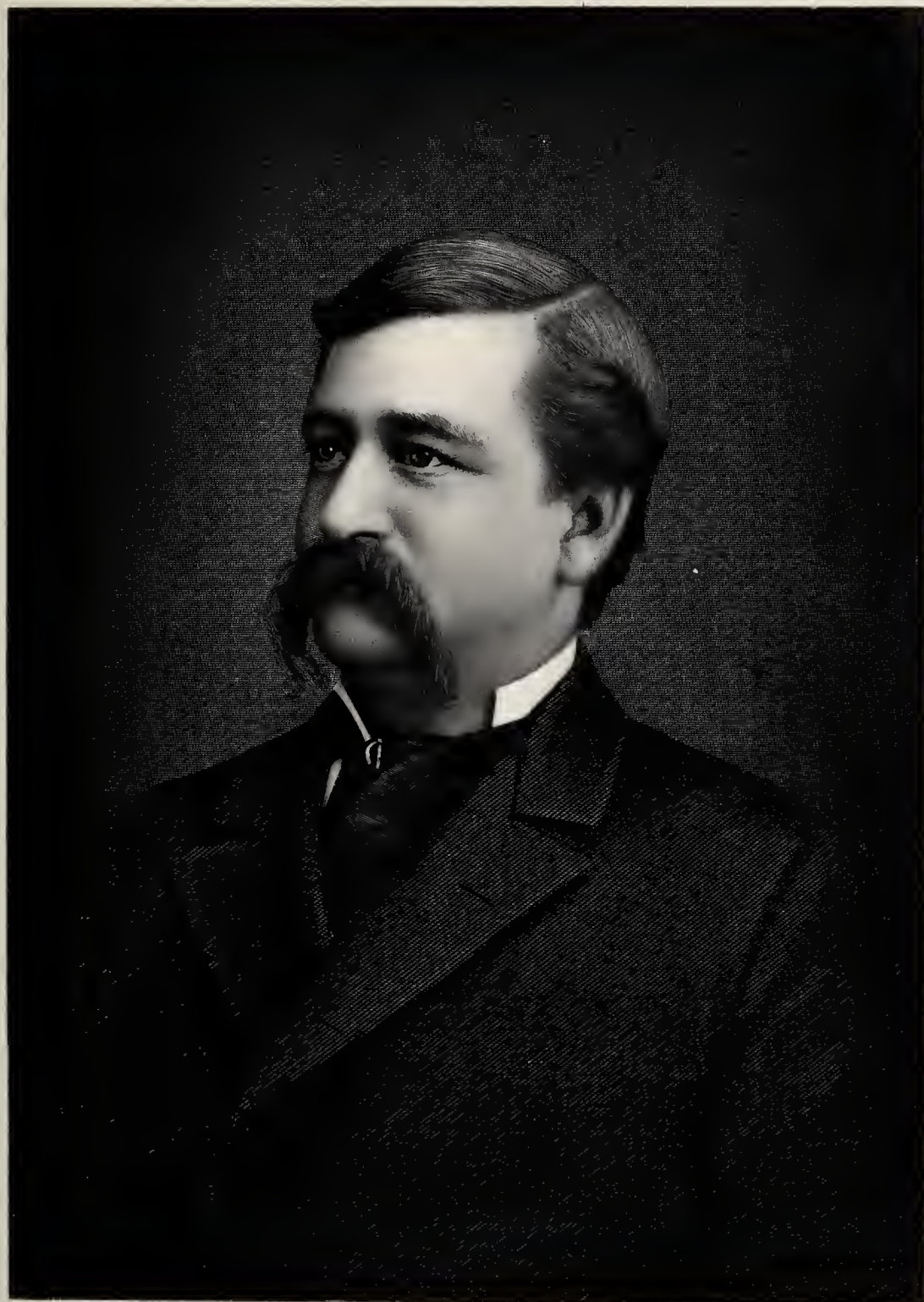
There was a lull in the discussion for several months. At a meeting of the city council held September 1, 1873, a petition of citizens, calling for an election on the adoption of the Holly system, was presented, and on July 20, 1874, another petition was presented, signed by nearly 200 citizens, praying for an election to decide the question. By this time, however, the council had discovered public sentiment was so unanimous that an election would be a waste of time and money. Therefore, at a meeting held August 4, 1874, the council adopted a resolution, declaring that immediate steps should be taken to establish a waterworks system. Aldermen Crawford, Perry and Upton were appointed a special waterworks committee. Thus, August 4, 1874, is the date on which the waterworks enterprise assumed definite form that gave assurance of success.

At a meeting of the council August 26, 1874, the waterworks committee reported that it had found the Holly system to be best adapted to the needs of Rockford. Four lots were purchased for the proposed waterworks from the heirs of the old Rockford Hydraulic and Manufacturing Company, which completed the first dam across Rock River at Rockford in 1845. The consideration was \$600. The council at this same session, accepted the bids of the Holly Manufacturing Company of Lockport, N. Y., to build and set up the machinery for \$35,000 and to furnish 125 hydrants at \$40 each. On September 30 ground was broken for the foundation for the waterworks building. George Bradley was the architect. Excavation for the pumping pit was also begun about this time. The building was completed December 15, and the machinery was installed the following March. It was proposed to get the water supply from springs known to exist on the lots purchased. The work of excavation had not gone very far when a large vein was struck, from whose living springs flowed an abundant supply of pure, cold water. When the

well was completed the supply of water was sufficient for all ordinary purposes, and water was seldom pumped from the river. The well was 27 feet deep, with an interior diameter of 5 feet, and walls 16 inches thick. This well was in the center of the old reservoir. Water from the springs was conducted through pipes into the reservoir. The pumping pit was 48 feet long, 8 feet wide, and 22 feet deep, interior measurement. The first stream was thrown from a hydrant on one of the mains near the pumping works March 13, 1875. This stream reached a height of 225 feet. On the same day two streams from a hydrant, 1¼ and 1¾ inches in diameter were thrown over the Holland house. These streams were thrown perpendicularly to a height of 175 feet. Water rates were established April 7, 1875. S. T. Holly was appointed chief engineer at the pumping works at a salary of \$1,400 per year.

The contract test of the completed waterworks system was made August 19, 1875, and was officially declared satisfactory. On September 2 the final report of the committee on fire and water was approved by the council without a dissenting vote. This committee was composed of S. P. Crawford, Seely Perry and Charles O. Upton. By their personal supervision of the construction of the waterworks, they had saved the taxpayers thousands of dollars. It was the fortune of Robert H. Tinker to be mayor of Rockford when the waterworks were completed. This triumph aroused fears that the city would become extravagant in extending the system. On July 9, 1875, Alderman Haines' celebrated resolution to restrain the ambition of the waterworks committee, and limit the further laying of pipes, was passed, after Alderman Crawford's amendment to "complete the original plan." The amended resolution was adopted by a vote of six to one. On July 21 the city attorney notified the council that Elisha A. Kirk had applied for an injunction against the city incurring further indebtedness on account of the waterworks. Judge Brown granted Mr. Kirk's application for a temporary injunction to restrain the city from incurring further indebtedness for the extension of water pipes. This protest had no practical effect. On November 15, 1875, Chairman Crawford presented a report covering expenditures to August 27. The total expense was \$243,070.48.

In July, 1880, during the administration of Mayor Wilkins, the fire and water committee



Museu Publishing Company

Engr'd by Campbell Brothers N.Y.

Thomas G. Lawler

recommended greater filtering capacity or a new well. The council acquiesced and instructed the committee to excavate for a 50-foot shaft, internal diameter. This well was carried to a depth of 35 feet. An abundant flow of water was secured about March, 1881, and it was hailed as a solution of the "water problem." The well was used about three years. Mr. Crawford was chairman of the fire and water committee, and the well has always borne his name. The cost of the well was \$19,127.43.

The splendid system of artesian wells is a noble monument to the sagacity of the late Hon. Alfred Taggart, mayor of Rockford from 1883 to 1887. In his annual message to the city council in 1885, Mayor Taggart referred to the fact that the water in the waterworks or "Crawford Well" had been declared unfit for household purposes. This action followed a test made the previous season by Prof. Haines, of Rush Medical College, Chicago. At the same time the water in the river was analyzed by Dr. Belford. The analysis showed the water to be comparatively free from organic contamination and far superior to the well water. The "Crawford Well" was therefore closed and the water supply was drawn wholly from the river. Mayor Taggart, in this message, also briefly suggested the possibility that the city could obtain a supply of pure water from artesian wells. He referred to an interview with Prof. T. C. Chamberlain, former chief geologist of Wisconsin, and then in the employ of the United States Government, who believed Rockford was situated in an artesian well belt. This conclusion was drawn from the fact that the water supply of Madison was furnished from artesian wells, and that the source of supply was from the Potsdam sandstone, which crops out near the surface at Madison, but which underlies Rockford at a depth from 800 to 1,000 feet.

The suggestions of the mayor were endorsed by the city council, and work was begun at once. A contract was made with J. F. Gray of Jefferson, Cook County, Ill. The contractor began drilling a 6-inch well the latter part of June. The experiment proved a success, and the well was subsequently reamed to an internal diameter of 8 inches. The wisdom of this course was at once apparent, and the flow of water increased from 600 gallons to 800 gallons per minute. When the well was completed in December it was ascertained it would supply 1,300,000 gallons of water every twenty-four hours. An analysis of the

water from this well was made by Prof. Smith, of Beloit College, and it proved to be a very superior quality. The water from artesian well No. 1 was turned into the pumping pit by Mayor Taggart December 17, 1885. From that time to the close of the fiscal year, April 30, 1886, the river water was turned in but twice, and these were in cases of factory fires.

The depth of the well is 1,520 feet, of which 1,035 feet is through Potsdam sandstone. The contract price for the well was \$5,401.73. The success of well No. 1 justified the sinking of additional wells. There was, however, no money available for this purpose until after the passage of the annual appropriation ordinance several months later. Public-spirited citizens came to the rescue and offered to advance the necessary funds. The proposition was accepted by the city council, and contractors began drilling wells Nos. 2 and 3. Water from well No. 2 was turned into the pumping pit May 12, 1886. This well is 1,250 feet deep. It was drilled near the foot of Peach street, and is known as the "Richings well." Prof. Erastus G. Smith, of the department of chemistry at Beloit College, made an analysis of the water from well No. 2, and it was found to be practically identical with that of the first well. Before well No. 3 was completed the city again became short of money. On November 1, 1886, a communication was addressed to the city council signed by twelve Rockford citizens who offered to advance money to complete well No. 3, and drill another. These citizens were: G. A. Sanford, George E. King, H. W. Price, B. F. Lee, W. O. Wormwood, Irvin French, William Lathrop, John Barnes, W. A. Talcott, John Beattie, Harris Barnum, and David Keyt. This offer was accepted by the council, well No. 3 was soon completed, and its water was tested December 4. This is the deepest well in Rockford being 1,996 feet. It is known as the "Knowlton well." The fourth artesian well had been completed March 23, 1887. It was sunk in Park avenue, and is 1,300 feet deep. Well No. 5 was completed in 1888 during the administration of Mayor Scovill. It was called the "Horsman well," and is 1,379 feet deep.

The five deep Potsdam wells supplied Rockford with water several years. During the administration of Mayor Starr the city council ordered the sinking of four "St. Peter's wells." The first was completed about March 1, 1892. No. 2 was finished a few weeks later; No. 3, dur-

ing the summer and No. 4 was completed early in 1893. These four "St. Peter's wells" have an average depth of 385 feet. Their cost was as follows: No. 1, \$946.18; No. 2, \$591.99; No. 3, \$532.77, and No. 4, \$1,137.11. The drilling of these St. Peter's wells followed an elaborate report of forty printed pages, prepared by a special commission.

On January 18, 1897, a contract was made between the city of Rockford and D. W. Mead, which had for its purpose the increase of the water supply, Mr. Mead was to construct a shaft and tunnel system with the general plan in view of increasing the yield of the artesian wells that had already been constructed by tapping them at a lower level and permitting the water to flow to a central shaft and pumping it by low lift into the pumping pit. In August the city made a separate contract with Mr. Mead, whereby for \$3,721, and the city supplying the steam for the work, the tunnel was to be extended to artesian well No. 2 and that well also connected with the system. Being unable to reach well No. 2, arrangements were made to drill well No. 6, at the end of the tunnel already extended toward No. 2. In December, 1897, a third contract was made with Mr. Mead to drill a deep well, to be known as No. 6. It is located in the alley in the rear of the reservoir, and is 1,200 feet deep. This well was completed early in 1898. Mr. Mead also drilled one St. Peter's well in the Mead system shaft, which is 387 feet deep.

Potsdam well No. 7 was completed in 1913. It is located on Eleventh street, between Seventeenth and Eighteenth avenues. The well is 1,503½ feet deep. It was drilled by the W. H. Cater Contracting Company, and the total cost, including real estate, was \$18,487.38. On June 29, 1914, a contract was awarded to S. B. Geiger of Chicago, for drilling Potsdam well No. 8, in Hulin park. This well is the largest in the city, and has been sunk to a depth of 1,500 feet. The city will not be able to pump water from this well before July 1, 1916.

Rockford has, to date, drilled thirteen artesian wells. No water is taken from Nos. 3 and 5. The present supply is taken from ten wells. The water supply is stored in two reservoirs. The old reservoir had been an object of criticism ever since the typhoid epidemic of 1912, and the following year it was practically reconstructed at a cost of \$10,871.05. Reservoir No. 2 was completed in 1912. It has an approxi-

mate capacity of 1,000,000 gallons, and cost nearly \$20,000. The valuation of the entire property of the water department December 30, 1914, was \$901,651.79.

From 1875 to 1883 the waterworks plant was under the immediate charge of the fire and water committee of the city council. In the latter year the office of superintendent of waterworks was created, and a superintendent appointed. The first superintendent was Edward N. Hill, and the second was John T. Lakin, who served as fire marshal and superintendent of waterworks until 1891, when the position of fire marshal was made a separate office and Edward B. Heffran appointed. Charles W. Calkins was superintendent from 1891 to 1894, and was succeeded by Melvin B. Little, and from 1895 to 1901 the office was filled by C. C. Stowell and Willis M. Kimball, respectively. Willis Calkins served two years during Mayor Hutchins' second administration. Frank Phinney was superintendent from 1903 to 1907 under Mayor Jackson. David Crowley served during the two terms of Mayor Jardine, from 1907 to 1911. Carter H. Page, Jr., was appointed by Mayor Bennett. He was succeeded by Guy C. Crane, and he in turn by Ross P. Beckstrom, who was appointed in January, 1914.

Mr. Little has the unique distinction of having drilled every one of Rockford's first eleven artesian wells. He first came to Rockford with J. F. Gray, who had the contract for the first well. He remained in the city and supervised the construction of the later wells. Mr. Little was appointed a member of the police force by Mayor Scovill in 1887. S. T. Holly was the first chief engineer and served from 1875 to 1881. John A. Ferguson held the office from 1881 to 1884. C. W. Calkins breaks the record, serving continuously from 1884 to 1901. His successors have been Kemper D. Harbaugh, Luke Degnan and Fred H. Gregory. Mr. Calkins again assumed his old position upon the death of Mr. Gregory in June, 1911. Mr. Calkins' continuous affiliation with the service covers a period of twenty years. He began in 1881 as assistant engineer under John A. Ferguson. He succeeded Mr. Ferguson as chief engineer in 1884 and served seventeen years. Three of these, from 1891 to 1894, he also filled the office of superintendent of waterworks. Mr. Calkins was

succeeded June 1, 1912, by Clarence Bailey, the present incumbent.

In the summer of 1910 a commission was appointed to investigate the question of an additional water supply. This commission consisted of Daniel W. Mead, John W. Alvord and Dabney H. Maury. They met August 10, and appointed Charles C. Stowell secretary. The commission presented an elaborate report, covering more than one hundred printed pages. It recommended a general reconstruction of the water-works system and estimated the cost of the improvements which should be installed prior to 1915 at \$591,115.

ROCKFORD GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY.

The Rockford Gas Light and Coke Company was incorporated by private act of the legislature February 1, 1855. The incorporators were John Platt, S. M. Preston, William Lyman, Henry Fisher and Jesse Blinn. On March 1, 1856, books were opened by the incorporators for the purpose of receiving popular subscription to the stock. In April, 1856, the lots at the corner of Mulberry and Wyman streets, where the public library now stands, were purchased of W. A. Dickerman, G. A. Sanford and T. D. Robertson, and the erection of the gas works was begun the following month.

On December 25, 1856, the proprietors of the gas company gave a grand festival to celebrate the introduction of gas lights in the city. At Warner's Hall a sumptuous table was spread for invited guests and after toasts had been responded to by Mayor Loop, John Platt, Dr. Lyman, C. H. Herrick, E. W. Blaisdell, Jr., and E. F. W. Ellis, the guests adjourned to Metropolitan Hall to "dance by gas light." Both halls were brilliantly lighted by the first gas made by the new works. On February 3, 1857, stores were lighted by gas for the first time. The price of gas was \$4.00 per thousand cubic feet. Misfortune seemed to overtake the company, for in March, 1858, the works and mains were sold at public auction to satisfy the creditors.

On January 18, 1861, the new owners, Thomas Butterworth, Samuel Ashcraft, Robert P. Lane, G. A. Sanford and W. A. Dickerman, gave notice that they would operate the gas plant and on February 22, 1861, obtained a new franchise from the legislature. Thomas Butterworth was appointed manager, and in time became the sole owner of the company until his death in

1885. The works were purchased from the Butterworth estate March 1, 1890, by the American Gas Company of Philadelphia, which has operated them since that time. The consideration was \$250,000. The American company operates nineteen plants, located in American cities. The local manager of the company is Henry S. Whipple, who came here at the time the works were bought by the present owners.

In 1899 land was purchased on Avon street, near Cedar street, and a modern plant erected capable of making 500,000 cubic feet per day. In 1906 additions were made to the plant which brought the daily capacity to 1,400,000 cubic feet. In 1913 more land was purchased and additions are now nearly completed that will bring the manufacturing capacity of the works to over 3,000,000 cubic feet per day. Street mains have been laid to all parts of the city until at the present time there are 145 miles of mains. The original works cost about \$75,000. The present plant and mains represent an outlay of over \$1,500,000.

ROCKFORD ELECTRIC COMPANY.

The Rockford Electric Company, which now supplies the city of Rockford with electric light and power, represents franchises and consolidations covering more than thirty years. The Rockford Electric Light and Power Company was granted a franchise by the city council December 4, 1882. This company did not operate, and was superseded by the Forest City Electric Light and Power Company, which obtained a franchise April 16, 1883. Most of the capital was furnished by local citizens. C. Fred Warner was manager. The plant was located on North Madison street, and was subsequently removed to a site near the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad track on the west side. Mr. Warner retired from the management in 1888 and was succeeded by M. A. Beale.

The Rockford Electric Power Company, a competing corporation, obtained a franchise in 1887. C. Fred Warner was the promoter and first general manager and developed a prosperous business. The plant was on the site of the Rockford Brass Works on the water power. Mr. Warner subsequently retired and engaged in electrical engineering and installing individual plants. J. W. Bartlett became manager of the company; but reverses came and the

company failed in 1892, and Mr. Warner was appointed receiver. He placed the company on a paying basis, and the plant, equipment and franchise were purchased and consolidated with the Forest City Company.

In 1896 the Rockford General Electric Company was organized, with M. A. Beale as manager. The company purchased the plant and franchise of the Forest City Company, and thus retained exclusive control of the local field. In 1899 the name was changed to the Rockford Edison Company, with Mr. Beale retaining the general management.

July 21, 1902, J. A. Walker, Fred K. Houston and George S. Briggs obtained a franchise to operate a plant for furnishing heat and transmitting electric power. This franchise was purchased by W. E. Dewey and H. G. Geer, who operated the plant under the name of the Central Heat and Power Company. In 1907 the Rockford Edison Company changed its name to the Rockford Electric Company. F. H. Golding was the general manager. In 1908 the Rockford Electric Company purchased the equipment and franchise of the Central Heat and Power Company; and thus all electric light and heat for the city of Rockford is furnished by a single company.

The Rockford Electric Company is one of twelve plants operated by the American Gas and Electric Company, with headquarters in New York. R. E. Breed, of Marion, Ind., is president of both the general and the local corporations; George N. Tidd, of Elizabeth, N. J., is vice-president; Frank E. Ball, also of Elizabeth, is secretary and treasurer. Adam Gschwindt succeeded Mr. Golding as general manager in May, 1913.

CENTRAL UNION TELEPHONE COMPANY.

The Rockford Telephone Exchange was incorporated in January, 1880, as a branch of the Western Telephone Company, which operated a score of exchanges in the middle west. The incorporators were the Western Union Telegraph Company and E. T. Keim, manager of the telephone company at Dubuque. The capital stock was \$10,000. A franchise was granted by the city council January 19, 1880, and the exchange was opened for business April 9 next following, with 74 subscribers. Headquarters were on the third floor of the Ashton building, and Miss Jennie Miller was the first general man-

ager. The rental for telephone service was \$4 a month. The growth of the exchange was slow for several years. October 25, 1882, there were only 186 subscribers, and in August of the following year there were 235 patrons. In July, 1883, the exchange was removed to the second floor of the building now occupied by A. H. Bolender's jewelry store. From there headquarters were transferred to a building adjoining the Winnebago National Bank; thence to Masonic Hall block, and from there the company removed to its own commodious building in 1913. Miss Miller was succeeded as manager by R. H. Gibboney. He retained the position until 1901, when he resigned to accept the management of the new "Home" company. Fred Alston succeeded to the management, but he remained only a few months. The fourth manager is F. L. Eby, the present incumbent. He has been connected with the exchange nineteen years, and for thirteen years he has been general manager.

The American Telephone Company is the parent company, and the local exchange is known as the Central Union Telephone Company, which is the operating company for Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

HOME TELEPHONE COMPANY.

On June 3, 1901, the city council granted to F. L. Bills and E. L. Wortham a franchise to operate a second telephone exchange, for a period of twenty years. R. H. Gibboney was the first manager, and served until 1908, when he was succeeded by James H. Corcoran, the present incumbent. The system is under the control of Rockford citizens, who hold a large majority of the stock. For this reason it is designated the "Home" company. It operates only in Winnebago County, but makes connections in seven states. The officers of the company are: President, T. M. Ellis; vice president, R. S. Chapman; secretary, J. H. Camlin; treasurer, W. F. Woodruff.

CHAPTER XXVI.

A QUARTER CENTURY.

1865-1890.

BUILDING OPERATIONS UP TO 1880—THE FALL OF THE COURTHOUSE—LOSS OF LIFE—BLAME PLACED—A TRANSITION PERIOD—SEVERE STORMS—AMOS BRONSON ALCOTT—MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR



Samuel E. Levi



Rose M. Levi

PRESIDENT GARFIELD—MORTUARY RECORD OF 1881
—A LOCAL TRAGEDY—BUILDING OPERATIONS IN
1882-3—CELEBRATION OF SEMI-CENTENNIAL—
DEATH OF NOTABLE CITIZENS—EVENTS OF 1885—
MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR GENERAL GRANT—ROCK-
FORD'S LOSS OF EMINENT MEN—FIRE AND FLOOD
—DWIGHT L. MOODY AT ROCKFORD.

BUILDING OPERATIONS UP TO 1880.

Rockford made little history for fifteen years after the Civil war. Thus the period from 1865 to 1880 does not offer an inviting field to the historian. There were few new ventures in manufacturing, compared with the decade immediately following. The city and county had offered much of their best blood on the altar of freedom, and many of those who returned from the field were maimed for life, and poorly equipped to resume the avocations of peace. Not a few former soldiers took up homestead rights offered by the government in the western states. For some years Rockford little more than held its own. Under these conditions all that the citizens could do was to strengthen the things that remained, and wait for a brighter day that was sure to come.

Col. A. R. Chapin died December 21, 1866. He commanded the Tenth Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers during the early part of the Civil war. Ill health compelled him to resign, and he came to Rockford in 1863 and engaged in the hardware business. His widow, a daughter of William Twogood, a pioneer of the county, still resides in Rockford.

The building operations of 1866 included the erection of the Wallach block on the Ashton corner. The old Winnebago House was destroyed by fire in 1860, and the site had since been unoccupied. Henry Wallach & Company began business in 1855, and occupied the corner store under the unfinished Holland House. In 1856 D. Wallach bought the stock of Henry Wallach & Company and Isaac Bacharach was admitted as a partner. The building was sixty-four feet front, by one hundred in depth and had three stories. The ground floor was divided into two stores, and D. Wallach & Company occupied the corner. Another business block erected during the year was that of Leonard & Menzinger, on the northeast corner of State and Wyman streets.

The three-story Masonic hall block, 317-321

West State street, now owned by the Talcott estate, was built in 1869. In 1873 Charles I. Horsman erected the three-story brick block at 306-310 West State street, now occupied in part by the National Hotel. Three small frame buildings were razed to make a site for the new building. The postoffice was in one of these when Mr. Horsman was postmaster. The property still belongs to the Horsman estate. Another notable building erected in 1873 was the Second National Bank. It was built by Dr. R. P. Lane and G. A. Sanford, on ground leased for twenty years from Warren Loomis.

THE FALL OF THE COURTHOUSE.

In 1875 the board of supervisors took steps toward the erection of a new courthouse. Henry L. Gay was the architect, and W. D. Richardson the contractor. The cornerstone was laid June 23, 1876. May 11, 1877, occurred the greatest disaster in the history of the city, known as the "fall of the courthouse." All but a portion of the front pediment of the main central tower or dome fell straight through the middle of the building, crushing in its descent much of the inside work of the structure. Seven men were killed outright and several others were severely injured, two of whom died before the coroner's jury completed its inquest. Those who were killed were Fred Haug, A. Hollenbeck, John Warren, A. Haug, John Pipe, George Gloss and Timothy Flannigan. The wounded were August Lucas, Thomas Hayes, William McInnis, John Peck, George Smith, Hugh Eldridge, Cicero Dickerson, Hendrez Beldahl, Isaac Donnelly, John Donaldson, Frank Harris, Henry W. Ames, and a man named Lindholm. John Peck and Lindholm died from their injuries.

A coroner's jury made careful examination into the cause of the disaster. The jury was composed of Selden M. Church, H. W. Carpenter, George S. Haskell, John R. Porter, G. A. Sanford, J. B. Howell, Thomas Butterworth, George Wilson, J. W. Seccomb, William H. Smith, A. G. Lowry, D. L. Emerson. The jury found the disaster was caused, first by the neglect of Henry L. Gay, the architect, to provide for the great amount of weight called for to complete the building according to the plans designed by him; second, want of care on the part of said architect in not giving special specifications and plans for the parts of the general plan required

to carry the extra weight, in proportion to the superficies; third, the board of supervisors failed to use due caution in examining the plans and specifications, and in not employing a competent architect. Work was resumed at once, and the courthouse was completed in 1878, at a cost of \$211,000. It was dedicated October 14, when addresses were made by Judge Brown, Rev. W. S. Curtis, Duncan Ferguson, A. I. Enoch, Wait Talcott, L. F. Warner, William Lathrop, E. H. Baker, H. W. Taylor, C. M. Brazee, R. F. Crawford, J. C. Garver and Judge Bailey.

BUSINESS BLOCKS AND RESIDENCES.

Alexander D. Forbes built a beautiful home on North Main street in 1874, at a cost of \$30,000. Daniel Dow built the block on South Main street which bears his name, in 1877. The block has a frontage of 67 feet and a depth of 94 feet.

In September, 1878, a movement was inaugurated to remove fences around residential property. A fence is now so rarely seen that what was then an innovation has become an almost invariable custom.

East State street was improved in the closing months of 1879 by the erection of three substantial business houses. Thomas Pyng built the block now occupied by the Coyner drug store. The first tenants were Brown & Ekstein. The Van Zant block, on the northwest corner of State and Second streets, containing two stores, was ready for occupancy in October. The third block was erected by Mrs. Winnifred Nash, at 418 East State street.

Ulysses M. Warner, who died October 16, 1880, at Topeka, Kansas, built the large brick house on Park avenue known as the Brantingham estate. He was the third mayor of Rockford, being elected in 1854, and serving one year.

A TRANSITION PERIOD.

The decade beginning with 1881 marks the transition from a provincial city of the New England type to the "New Rockford." This period was signalized by many enterprises that have largely contributed to the Rockford of today. Among these were the extension of the telephone service and the advent of electric light and street cars. Three of the largest railway systems of the middle west entered

the city. The erection of an opera house increased the prestige of the city as an amusement center. The public schools of the city underwent a complete reconstruction. The town pump and noisome river water gave way to a system of artesian wells. There was an extension of manufacturing interests, which, in turn, invited a greater and more cosmopolitan population. Several of these interests are treated in special chapters.

SEVERE STORMS.

The most prolonged and severe storm in the history of the city began Saturday, February 26, 1881, with rain, which turned into snow on Sunday. The storm continued during the week, and on Thursday, March 4, the day James A. Garfield was inaugurated president of the United States, it had snowed continuously forty-eight hours. Railroad service was abandoned. The first train from the east since 2 o'clock Wednesday, March 2, arrived in Rockford at 10:15 the following Monday night, after an interval of more than five days. The mail coach brought more than 75,000 letters and postals. One firm received 2,500 pieces of mail. A second storm began March 19, which resulted in another general blockade. The river began to break up the middle of April, and the vacant lot now occupied by the opera house was inundated. April 19 the compositors in the Daily Register office waded in six inches of water all day in getting out the issue. The wheels of the press ran through the water which ran into the lower door of the boiler.

AMOS BRONSON ALCOTT.

One of the most illustrious prophets of the Concord school of transcendental philosophy, Amos Bronson Alcott, spent nearly a week in Rockford. He was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Talcott, where members of the old Round Table and other friends made his personal acquaintance. Mr. Alcott's claim to distinction did not rest upon the fact that he was the father of a gifted daughter, Louisa M. Alcott, one of the most popular and wholesome of American writers. He was great in his own right; a quaint and benignant figure, a visionary and mystic, who lived in unworldly simplicity the life of the soul. Mr. Alcott traveled for

many years over the country, holding conversations on philosophy, education and religion. It was on one of these tours that he visited Rockford. He arrived in the city Saturday, April 9, 1881, and remained until Friday of the following week. Sunday evening Mr. Alcott spoke in the Second Congregational Church on "The Immortality of the Soul," in which he compressed the essence of transcendentalism into four words: "No instinct prophesies falsely." Monday evening Mr. Alcott met members of the Round Table at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Talcott, and gave a conversation on several members of the Concord group of writers. Tuesday evening Mr. Alcott gave an address at Rockford Seminary, now college; Wednesday morning he addressed the pupils of the West Side high school, and those of the East Side on Thursday. Wednesday evening members of the Round Table were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Talcott, and Thursday evening Mr. Alcott gave his last conversation at the Talcott home.

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR PRESIDENT GARFIELD.

Memorial services for President James A. Garfield were held in Rockford September 26. The day of the funeral of the beloved statesman a procession of civic and military societies and citizens marched to the fair grounds, where addresses were made by several citizens. Hon. Wait Talcott and Abraham E. Smith were appointed by Governor Cullom members of a committee of one hundred to represent Illinois at the last rites at Cleveland. Mayor Crawford appointed the following committee to represent the city of Rockford: C. M. Brazee, R. F. Crawford, Irvin French, John H. Sherratt and Aldermen L. B. Fuller and B. R. Waldo.

The mortuary record of the year is brief. William Watson, mayor of Rockford, 1878-1879, died October 11. He came to Rockford in 1863, and his subsequent life was devoted to insurance. He was secretary of the Rockford Insurance Company from 1867 to 1881. His widow resides in Paris, and is devoting her life to the relief of suffering soldiers. Charles Works, a pioneer of 1836, died in Rockford November 10. He was the first supervisor on the county board from Guilford Township, and father of the late Charles A. Works, state's attorney and member of the state board of equalization.

The year 1882 was comparatively uneventful.

On the night of February 19 H. W. Loomis disappeared from his home on Peach street. For thirty-two days his fate seemed an insoluble mystery. On the afternoon of March 22 his body was found in Kent's Creek in the fair grounds, by two boys, Charles J. Seccomb and Robert Lathrop. The details of the tragedy were never known and the coroner's jury returned a verdict of accidental drowning. Mr. Loomis was born in Sheffield, Conn., January 4, 1815, and came to Rockford with his father, Nathaniel Loomis, in 1836.

Nothing better illustrates the surprising growth of that part of Rockford known as North Town than the fact that in April, 1882, four citizens, H. P. Holland, William Lathrop, Levi Rhoades and H. W. Price, purchased the old camp grounds from R. M. Patrick, of Marengo, for \$7,200. The tract consisted of twenty-nine acres, and now comprises the finest residence district in the city. The consideration was not much greater than the price of a choice single lot on Harlem or National avenue today.

In the spring of 1882 H. W. Carpenter began the erection of a row of brick apartment houses on Kishwaukee street. They were an innovation, were considered very desirable and commanded a good rental. About the same time Benjamin Blakeman purchased from Judge Anson S. Miller lots at the southeast corner of West State and Winnebago streets, and erected a two-story brick flat building. In the autumn Dr. E. C. Dunn built flats on West State street. These buildings, with the Colton flats on the corner of North Main and Mulberry streets, were the beginning of apartment houses and flats in Rockford and were among the many indications that the city was assuming a more metropolitan aspect. Hundreds of similar buildings have since been erected in the old part of the city. The building operations of 1883 included the Worthington block, erected by William Worthington, and the Perry and Lake block, erected by Seely Perry and John Lake, both on East State street.

CELEBRATION OF SEMI-CENTENNIAL.

The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Rockford was celebrated with public exercises in the opera house on the evening of August 25. The feature was a scholarly historical address by a former mayor, Edward H. Baker.

DEATH OF NOTABLE CITIZENS.

S. S. Montague, son of Richard Montague, a pioneer of Rockford, died in California in September, 1883. He was a civil engineer, and in the construction of the Central Pacific railroad achieved a world-wide reputation.

Isaac Bacharach, a clothing merchant, and Rockford's most prominent Jewish citizen, died September 28, 1883.

Pells Manny, father of John H. Manny, the founder of the Emerson-Brantingham Company, died in Freeport September 12, 1883. He settled in Stephenson County in 1836.

James B. Agard died at Omaha, Neb., January 12, 1884, as the result of an accident. Mr. Agard came to Rockford in 1855, and his entire business life was devoted to buying grain. January 13 Daniel C. Littlefield, a resident of Rockford since 1857, died at his home on South First street. George H. Trufant, cashier of the People's Bank, died suddenly February 9. He came to Rockford in 1855. Nathaniel Wilder, a pioneer of 1857, died July 11, at the age of ninety-one years.

Sylvester Talcott died at his home in Rockton January 19, at the age of 74 years. He was born in Rome, N. Y., October 14, 1810. His father, William Talcott, settled in Rockton in 1835, and Sylvester came the following year. In 1854 Mr. Talcott became a member of the manufacturing firm of J. H. Manny & Company.

EVENTS OF 1885.

January 1, 1885, marked the passing of the custom of making New Year's calls. For years it had been generally observed by society folk, and it is still a pleasant memory. The custom was subject to abuses, and became more honored in the breach than in the observance. Its decline was not peculiar to Rockford, but was general throughout the country.

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR GENERAL GRANT.

Rockford, in common with the nation, mourned the passing of its most illustrious soldier, General U. S. Grant. In pursuance of a proclamation issued by Mayor Taggart, business was suspended August 8, the day of the funeral. Memorial services were held in the skating rink. Mayor Taggart presided, and addresses were

made by Rev. T. R. Strowbridge, H. P. Hollaud, William Lathrop, N. C. Warner, John C. Garver and Rev. D. M. Reed.

Peter H. Watson, who died in New York City July 22, built the first foundry and machine shop in Rockford, in 1843. Later he was one of the attorneys who defended the interest of J. H. Manny & Company in the suit for infringement of patent instituted by Cyrus H. McCormick. Mr. Watson was assistant secretary of war under President Lincoln and at a later period was president of the New York & Erie Railroad.

DEATH OF GENERAL LOGAN.

General John A. Logan was the idol of the soldiers of Illinois, and when he passed away in 1886, each felt a sense of personal loss. Memorial services were held in the opera house Sunday, January 2, 1887. Addresses were made by Thomas G. Lawler, Rev. G. R. Vauhorne, Dr. Kerr and Dr. Woodbury.

Thomas Bell died March 16, after a brief illness. He was born in Scotland and came to America at an early age. He enlisted in Company H of the Sixteenth Illinois Volunteers. Mr. Bell was elected county clerk in 1887, and served nine years.

Samuel I. Church, former sheriff of Winnebago County, died suddenly March 10, 1886, at his home on School street. Mr. Church came to Rockford in 1848. He was the youngest of three brothers who settled in Rockford at an early date. The others were Selden M. and Ulysses F. Church. Gilbert Moffatt died July 26. He devoted his life to one pursuit, and was local agent of the United States Express Company at the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul depot at the time of his death.

The mortuary record of the year included several names that had been prominent in the community. Allen Gibson, the most prominent insurance man of early Rockford, died January 8. He settled in the city in 1858, and organized the old Rock River Insurance Company, which did a successful business for some years. James Ferguson died at Clear Water Harbor, Florida, March 15. He was a native of Scotland, and came with his parents to this county in 1840. Mr. Ferguson was one of the founders of the abstract firm of Holland, Ferguson & Company, served several years as alderman from the Seventh ward, and was a leader in the local



George Fiddle and Family

Republican organization. Orlando Clark, a pioneer of 1847, died in Portland, Oregon, April 2. After suffering financial reverses he removed west, where he retrieved his fortune. Anor Woodruff did not play a conspicuous part in the history of Rockford, yet its annals would not be complete with his name omitted. He came to Rockford in 1849, and for nearly half a century he was known and beloved as the "candy man." Mr. Woodruff died May 23. He and Mrs. Woodruff lived together 67 years and were believed to be the oldest married couple in the state. N. E. Lyman, president of the People's Bank since its organization in 1873, died August 20. As a banker, citizen and Christian gentleman he was held in the highest esteem.

The events of 1889 in relation to Rockford, aside from those related elsewhere under separate chapter heads, can be told in a few paragraphs. The record begins with the passing of two honored clergymen.

Rev. Hiram Foote died January 13 after an active career as a Congregational minister and reformer. In 1835 he was a lecturer under the auspices of the American Anti-Slavery Society, and two years later he settled in Winnebago County. Mr. Foote was a lifelong advocate of total abstinence.

Rev. D. M. Reed, a Universalist minister, died January 23. He was born in Massachusetts and served one term in the legislature of his native state. Mr. Reed occupied prominent pulpits in the east and west. He came from Peoria to Rockford in 1866 and preached in the Unitarian church. His discourses were always models of rare poetic diction.

Death also claimed during the two years two citizens prominent in the business life of the city. Lyon P. Ross, inventor and second secretary of the Forest City Furniture Company, passed away February 23. He was keenly alive to every interest of Rockford, and to him more than to any other one citizen may be attributed the diverting of the Illinois Central line to Rockford.

The death of G. A. Shoudy occurred March 29. He came to Rockford in 1868, and engaged in the manufacture of soap, in which he developed a successful business.

FIRE AND FLOOD.

On November 1, 1886, Rockford was visited by one of the most destructive fires in its history. The A. M. Johnston oatmeal mill, J. B. Agard & Company's office and buildings, J. W. Bartlett's office and warehouse, A. L. Bartlett's elevator, N. C. Thompson's warehouse and several residences were destroyed. The loss was estimated at \$100,000.

The most disastrous storm in the history of the city up to that time occurred June 13, 1890. Rock River and Kent's and Keith's creeks overflowed their banks and the yards of the Illinois Central were flooded. Ten bridges were swept away. Plants on the water-power suffered great loss and inconvenience and many families were driven from their homes.

The notable building operations of 1890 included the Stewart dry goods block on South Main street and the Third National Bank on East State street.

The religious event of the year was the evangelistic campaign conducted by Dwight L. Moody. It was a united effort on the part of the churches, and resulted in a general awakening. Mr. Moody preached his first sermon in Court Street Methodist Church October 26, and completed his labors November 5. Here, as everywhere, Mr. Moody gave evidence of remarkable endurance. He told the writer he was able to do his work because he was systematic; when he left the church he ceased to think of his work, and when he retired to his room he instantly fell asleep.

CHAPTER XXVII.

MANUFACTURING.

ROCKFORD HYDRAULIC AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY—BUILDING OF THE DAM—ACCIDENTS TO THE DAM—FIRST BRIDGES AT ROCKFORD—FIRST FOUNDRY AND MACHINE SHOP—ROCKFORD WATER POWER COMPANY—ORIGIN AND GROWTH OF EMERSON-BRANTINGHAM COMPANY—ADVENT OF JOHN H. MANNY—CLARK & UTTER MANU-

FACTURE HIS FIRST REAPERS—SUIT IN FEDERAL COURT—FAMOUS LEGAL TALENT ENGAGED—ABRAHAM LINCOLN ONE OF THE LAWYERS—DEATH OF JOHN H. MANNY—FIRM NAME BECOMES TALCOTT, EMERSON & COMPANY—SUBSEQUENT CHANGES IN FIRM STYLE—PRESENT NAME ADOPTED IN 1909—LARGEST MANUFACTURING PLANT IN ROCKFORD—HISTORY OF THOMPSON MANUFACTURING COMPANY — MENTION OF EARLIER MANUFACTURERS — ROCKFORD BOLT WORKS—HESS & HOPKINS LEATHER COMPANY—ROCKFORD BRASS WORKS—W. F. AND JOHN BARNES COMPANY—ROCKFORD WATCH COMPANY—DOBSON MANUFACTURING COMPANY—UNION FOUNDRY AND MACHINE COMPANY—ROCKFORD SILVER PLATE COMPANY—ANDREWS WIRE AND IRON WORKS—ECLIPSE GAS STOVE COMPANY—WARD PUMP COMPANY—SPENGLER-LOOMIS MANUFACTURING COMPANY — INGERSOLL MILLING MACHINE COMPANY—FREE SEWING MACHINE COMPANY—BARBER-COLMAN COMPANY—NATIONAL LOCK COMPANY—GREENLEE BROTHERS AND COMPANY—STONEFIELD-EVANS SHOE COMPANY—ROCKFORD DROP FORGE COMPANY—THE KING COMPANY—BURD HIGH COMPRESSION RING COMPANY—ROCKFORD'S KNITTING INDUSTRY — ROCKFORD SEAMLESS SOCKS FIRST IN THE MARKET—NELSON KNITTING COMPANY—ROCKFORD MITTEN AND HOSIERY COMPANY—BURSON KNITTING COMPANY—FOREST CITY KNITTING COMPANY—B. Z. B. KNITTING COMPANY—S. B. WILKINS COMPANY—THE FURNITURE INDUSTRY—FOREST CITY FURNITURE COMPANY—UNION FURNITURE COMPANY—CENTRAL FURNITURE COMPANY—COOPERATIVE FURNITURE COMPANY—ROCKFORD CHAIR AND FURNITURE COMPANY—STANDARD FURNITURE COMPANY—SKANDIA FURNITURE COMPANY—WEST END FURNITURE COMPANY—MECHANIC'S FURNITURE FACTORY—ROYAL MANTEL AND FURNITURE COMPANY—ROCKFORD FRAME AND FIXTURE COMPANY—ROCKFORD CABINET COMPANY—ROCKFORD DESK COMPANY—ROCKFORD FURNITURE COMPANY—EMPIRE MANUFACTURING COMPANY—ILLINOIS CABINET COMPANY—EXCEL MANUFACTURING COMPANY—ROCKFORD NATIONAL FURNITURE COMPANY—ROCKFORD PALACE FURNITURE COMPANY—ROCKFORD BOOKCASE COMPANY—ROCKFORD SUPERIOR FURNITURE COMPANY—ROCKFORD CEDAR CHEST COMPANY—ROCKFORD LIGHT FURNITURE COMPANY—ILLINOIS SCHOOL FURNITURE COMPANY — OLD COLONY CHAIR COMPANY — MONARCH FURNITURE COMPANY — WORLD FURNITURE COMPANY — FORMER FURNITURE COM-

PANIES—PROPOSED SEMI-ANNUAL FURNITURE EXPOSITION — THE PIANO INDUSTRY — HADDORFF PIANO COMPANY—SCHUMANN PIANO COMPANY—KURTZ ACTION COMPANY—LIST OF OTHER MANUFACTURERS—"MADE IN ROCKFORD"—PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES—A QUARTER CENTURY'S GROWTH.

ROCKFORD HYDRAULIC AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

The attempt to utilize the water-power was the first step in the transition of Rockford from a hamlet to a manufacturing city. February 28, 1843, an act of the legislature was approved, to improve the navigation of the rapids in Rock River at Rockford, and to incorporate the Rockford Hydraulic and Manufacturing Company. The corporation was given power to construct a dam across the river, which should raise the water not more than 7 feet. The company was also required to erect and maintain such locks as might be necessary for the passage of steamboats drawing 3 feet of water. At that time the navigation of Rock River was an open question, and the government might assert its control of the river as a navigable stream. A dam would obstruct navigation, hence the company was required to construct locks for the passage of boats, whenever they should become necessary. The law specified the rates of toll which the company should be entitled to collect for the passage of boats through the locks, and it was given power to detain such craft until the toll should be paid. Daniel S. Haight, Germanicus Kent, Samuel D. Preston, Laomi Peake, Charles I. Horsman, George Haskell and J. C. Goodhue were appointed commissioners to receive subscriptions to the stock. The capital stock was placed at \$50,000, divided into 500 shares of \$100 each. The corporation was given power to increase its capital stock to any sum not exceeding \$250,000. The law expressly provided that the state might, at any time after the construction of the dam and locks, assume the ownership of the same; the state, however, was to keep them in good repair. All the hydraulic power was to remain absolutely the property of the company. On July 22, 1843, books were opened for subscriptions to the capital stock. By an act of the legislature, approved February 11, 1845, the law of 1843 was amended.



LIDDLE COAT OF ARMS

THE BUILDING OF THE DAM.

In the spring of 1844 the Rockford Hydraulic Company was fully organized. The dam was located a few rods above the present water-works. Directly above, the main channel of the stream shifted abruptly from the east to the west shore. On the east side, at the site of the dam, the water for two-thirds the width of the stream, was about 3 feet deep in summer, with 8 or 9 feet in the channel. This site for the dam was chosen because it was generally believed that if the dam were located at the head of the rapids, the town would be built there. Had the dam been built at the ford, on the rock bottom, it would have required a larger outlay of cash. This article was scarce, while timber, brush, stone and earth were abundant. Edward S. Hanchett, of Freeport, had charge of the construction of the dam when it was commenced. He abandoned the work and he was succeeded by C. C. Coburn. Eighty acres of the best timber land were stripped of material to build the dam and repair the breaks. This brush dam was built to a level with the banks. A framework was then raised on the brush, to which plank was spiked. The work of graveling then began. The rock and gravel were obtained along the bank of the river from 60 to 80 rods above the dam. There were head-gates at either end, built high above the comb of the dam, with gates which opened like the gates of a lock on a canal, wide enough for the passage of steamboats. At each side of these gates were openings to admit the water to the races, which carried it to the mills below. As the water raised on the brush, the fish, coming down the river, would lodge on the dam during the night; and in the morning the people would get sturgeon, pickerel, black bass and catfish. The dam was completed in the autumn of 1845.

The mill-race on the East side extended to Walnut street, and was 20 feet in width. At the head of the race, Gregory, Phelps & Daniels had a sawmill. At the south side of State street was Nettleton's gristmill, the first in Rockford, which was started in 1846. Just below, James B. Howell operated carding and fulling machinery. Wheeler & Lyon's sawmill was at Walnut street. At the head of the race on the West side Thomas D. Robertson and Charles I. Horsman built a sawmill. Just below, Orlando Clark had an iron foundry in a stone building. It is significant

that three of these six plants were sawmills. Pine lumber had not come into general use, and the only available material for frame dwellings were the trees of the adjacent forests.

ACCIDENTS TO THE DAM.

April 28, 1846, the west end of the dam went out. About 200 feet, including the bulkhead, were swept away, and more than an acre of ground was washed out. The Hydraulic Company immediately decided to repair the dam, and the work was completed during the year. March 20, 1847, the dam gave away at the east end, and carried away the sawmill of Gregory, Phelps & Daniels. About 150 feet of the dam were washed out at this time. This break was repaired. Phelps & Daniels sold their interest in the wrecked sawmill to Lewis B. Gregory and A. C. Spafford, who rebuilt it. The mills then had good water-power until June 1, 1851, when the entire dam went out, breaking away at the west bulkhead. Several changes on the East side then followed. Mr. Howell removed his carding machine to New Milford, where he remained until the next year, when he returned to Rockford, to the West side, just below the Bartlett flouring mills. Wheeler & Lyon's mill was removed across the race near Joseph Rodd's mill, and became a part of his plant. In February, 1849, the legislature provided for the improvement of the navigation of Rock River, and for the production of hydraulic power, under a general law. It appears by an entry on the county records, that under this law the company filed a certificate of incorporation April 13, 1849, before the abandonment of the enterprise.

FIRST BRIDGES AT ROCKFORD.

A decade elapsed from the first settlement of the village before Rock River was spanned by a bridge at Rockford. A bill had passed the legislature, approved February 27, 1843, authorizing Daniel S. Haight, George Haskell, S. D. Preston, Charles I. Horsman, and their associates to build a bridge. When completed in a manner so as not to obstruct the navigation of the river, and accepted by the county commissioners' court, it was to be a public highway, and kept in repair by the county. Nothing was done until nearly one year later, when the construction of the county buildings on the West side emphasized

this need to the citizens of the East side, where the courts had been held. The entire people felt that a bridge must be built, although few had means enough to conduct their own business successfully. Citizens of the West side, including the country west of the village, had built the courthouse and jail without a dollar's expense to their neighbors on the east side of the river, but the progressive citizens were willing to assume another burden. At a meeting held in December, 1843, a committee consisting of E. H. Potter, D. Howell, Willard Wheeler, C. I. Horsman and G. A. Sanford, were appointed to solicit subscriptions. A persistent effort throughout the county secured pledges to warrant the construction of an oak lattice bridge. All the money raised at this time was by subscription. The most liberal contributors were Frink, Walker & Co., the stage proprietors. January 22, 1844, the committee let the contract to Derastus Harper. The lumber was cut from trees on government land on Pecatonica River, rafted down the Rock, and sawed at Mr. Kent's mill. The covering for the lattice was basswood boards, cut from logs in Mr. Blake's grove, and sawed at Kent's mill. C. I. Horsman and William G. Ferguson drew the logs. By fall Mr. Harper had sufficient material on hand to commence laying the bridge. This was done nearly in the rear of the Stewart Block site, on the piece of level bottom. The bridge was of three strings of lattice-work, made from oak planks, fastened with oak pins. There was no iron in the structure, except the nails that held the half-inch basswood boards which covered the lattice when the structure was completed. There were stone abutments on either shore. Christmas night, 1844, the lattice was in place a distance of about 70 feet from the west shore, supported by temporary trestles. Ice formed about the trestles from the west shore. The water arose and lifted the entire structure, including the trestles, when it toppled over with a crash. Another effort was made in a short time, and promises were again secured. The abutments, piers and one section were left, and some of the material was saved which had floated down stream. The fallen lattice was taken from the water, and each plank numbered with red chalk; and excepting a few that were splintered, they were again placed in proper order. After the ice went out in March, 1845, the structure was again raised, without accident. Cheerfulness and hopefulness assumed full sway,

and after many discouragements the bridge was open for travel, July 4, 1845. It was an occasion of great rejoicing. The public-spirited citizens of Rockford felt that Independence Day had been properly celebrated. Perhaps no other public improvement in Rockford ever so tested the courage and financial strength of the community. The burden fell heavily upon the committee. The contract with Mr. Harper was for \$5,500. A financial statement made July 15, 1845, showed that only \$2,847.90 had been collected. The committee had borrowed \$500 on their personal credit, for which they were paying 12 per cent. There was also a balance due Mr. Harper of \$1,297. The bridge served its day and generation very well, but it was subject to many calamities. The dam broke three times after the bridge was completed. When the west end broke in April, 1846, the pressure of the water on the upper side of the centre and principal pier removed the foundation on that side, and settled the bridge in the center on the upstream side nearly to the water, and gave it the appearance of being twisted nearly one-fourth around. The bridge stood in this position for some months, when a contract was made with William Ward to raise it into position. The bridge sustained some injury when the eastern portion of the dam broke in April, 1847. In February preceding, a law of the legislature had been approved, providing for a special tax to be levied upon the taxable property of Rockford Precinct, for the purpose of repairing and maintaining the bridge, and for the payment of the debt incurred in its construction. Newton Crawford, Bela Shaw, Ephraim Wyman and Daniel McKenney were appointed bridge commissioners by the act until their successors should be elected annually at the August election. When the dam went out the third time, in June, 1851, the bridge withstood the rush of waters, although it was wrenched from its position. It reminded one of a cow-path or a rail-fence, and had a very insecure look.

FIRST FOUNDRY AND MACHINE SHOP.

The first foundry and machine shop was built in the autumn of 1843, or early in the spring of the following year. It stood on the site of Theodore Van De Mark's residence, on North Second street. The proprietors were Peter H. and William Watson. Their father's family

came from Canada, and settled on a farm in the Enoch neighborhood in Guilford. Peter Watson was at one time assistant secretary of war during the civil conflict, and at a later period was president of the New York and Erie Railroad. The foundry was running in the spring of 1844. The proprietors obtained a contract for large pumps and pipes for raising water from the lead mines at Galena. March 11, 1845, William Watson sold his interest in the business to his brother, and engaged in the manufacture of fanning-mills. Peter H. continued the foundry until August, 1845. His successors in the business at this stand were in turn: R. F. Reynolds, D. K. Lyon, John Stevens, H. H. Silsby, Laomi Peake, and James L. Fountain. The last named proprietor removed the material and patterns to New Milford about 1852.

Orlando Clark, who has been erroneously credited with building the first foundry, came from Beloit in 1847, and established himself in business on the West side race, where he remained until 1851, when he went into business with Mr. Utter on the new water-power. Mr. Clark built the residence in South Rockford which is now the home of Mrs. John C. Garver.

ROCKFORD WATER POWER COMPANY.

On July 15, 1851, a number of the leading public-spirited citizens of the town associated themselves together under the name of the Rockford Water Power Company. These gentlemen were: Thomas D. Robertson, John A. Holland, R. P. Lane, G. A. Sanford, W. A. Dickerman, S. M. Church, Orlando Clark, C. I. Horsman, John Edwards, John S. Coleman, John Fisher, William Hulin, Isaiah Lyon, Melancthon Starr, C. H. Spafford, Lucius Clark, J. J. Town, Henry Potwin, H. R. Maynard, Jas. H. Rogers, B. McKenney, John Platt, Albert Sanford, Chas. C. Hope, H. P. Kimball Robert Clow, — Vanduzer and — McCoy. This organization was effected in pursuance of the general law enacted by the legislature in 1849, for the improvement of Rock River and the production of hydraulic power. In September, 1851, the owners of the water and land under the old company entered into an agreement with the new company, whereby the two interests were consolidated, and steps were immediately taken for the construction of a permanent dam on the rock bottom of the old ford, from which the city derives its name. In

the spring of 1853 the dam and race were completed and accepted by the company. The length of the dam was between 700 and 800 feet. The water power was divided into 20,000 parts, and was held and sold in this proportion.

ORIGIN AND GROWTH OF EMERSON-BRANTINGHAM COMPANY.

The first great impetus given to the manufacturing interests of Rockford was the advent of John H. Manny, in 1853. Mr. Manny was born in Amsterdam, New York, November 28, 1825. His father, Pells Manny, settled at Waddam's Grove, in Stephenson County, Illinois. The younger Manny's attention was called to the need of a reaper by his father's purchase of a heading machine, which proved unsatisfactory. The father and son thereupon so reconstructed the header as to practically make a new machine. They obtained a patent on the header and began its manufacture on a small scale. It proved to be too expensive, and was abandoned. Mr. Manny then directed his attention toward perfecting a reaper, and after many vicissitudes, which brought him to serious financial embarrassment, his inventive genius and indomitable energy were crowned with success. Mr. Manny built eighty-four machines in 1852.

In July, 1852, a reaper trial was held in Geneva, New York, in which Mr. Manny's reaper came into competition with eleven others. The excellence of Mr. Manny's machine was established.

In the spring of 1853 Mr. Manny was urged to come to Rockford by Orlando Clark. The preceding year Isaac Utter came from the east, and formed a partnership with Mr. Clark, under the firm name of Clark & Utter. In the spring of 1853 there were manufactured one hundred and fifty of Mr. Manny's combined reapers and mowers, in Clark & Utter's factory. It is also said that John A. Holland told Blinn & Emerson, who were then in the hardware business, that it would be desirable to have Mr. Manny come to Rockford for two reasons: first, there was better water-power; second, the firm was extending liberal credit to Mr. Manny for stock. The popularity of the Manny reaper demanded larger capital. March 4, 1854, Wait and Sylvester Talcott became associated with Mr. Manny as partners, under the name of J. H. Manny & Company, and during the year 1,100 machines were

made. In the autumn of 1854 Jesse Blinn and Ralph Emerson were added to the firm, and its name was changed to Manny & Company. In 1855 the famous trials of the Manny reaper were made in Europe, which gave to his inventions a reputation abroad. Mr. Manny continued to improve his reaper, and obtained 23 patents on new devices.

In September, 1855, C. H. McCormick, of Chicago, began suit in the Federal court to enjoin the Manny Company from using a certain device upon the ground of infringement of patent. The case was heard before Justice McLean and Judge Drummond, at Cincinnati, although the court records were kept in Chicago, which belonged to the same circuit. Attorneys of national reputation were retained. Mr. McCormick's counsel were Reverdy Johnson and E. N. Dickerson. Peter H. Watson, who had obtained Mr. Manny's patents, was given entire charge of the defendants' case. Mr. Watson had formerly resided in Rockford, and later he became assistant secretary of war. He employed George Harding, Edwin M. Stanton and Abraham Lincoln. It is said E. B. Washburne had recommended Mr. Lincoln to Mr. Manny. When all the parties had arrived at Cincinnati, Mr. Lincoln was informed by Mr. Watson that Mr. Stanton would close the case for the defendants. This was a great humiliation to Mr. Lincoln. Although he had prepared his argument, Mr. Lincoln did not argue the case. Mr. Lincoln first met Mr. Stanton at Cincinnati. Mr. Stanton treated him with great discourtesy during the trial, and referred to him as a railsplitter from the wild west. Notwithstanding these indignities, Mr. Lincoln was impressed with Mr. Stanton's great force of character; and when six years later a man of iron was needed, President Lincoln made Mr. Stanton his secretary of war. No other incident in the life of Mr. Lincoln better illustrates his moral greatness. The trial resulted in a victory for the Manny Company. The decision was announced January 16, 1856. The defendants' expenses of the suit were \$60,000, and this large sum was made from the business in a short time. Mr. McCormick appealed the case to the United States Supreme court, where the decision of the lower court was affirmed, and Mr. Manny's rights as inventor were fully sustained.

Ida M. Tarbell's "Life of Lincoln" gives an incident of this trial, which the author obtained from Ralph Emerson, who says:

"Mr. Stanton closed his speech in a flight of impassioned eloquence. Then the court adjourned for the day, and Mr. Lincoln invited me to take a long walk with him. For block after block he walked rapidly forward, not saying a word, evidently deeply dejected.

"At last he turned suddenly to me, exclaiming: 'Emerson, I'm going home.' A pause. 'I am going home to study law.'

"'Why,' I exclaimed; 'Mr. Lincoln, you stand at the head of the bar in Illinois now! What are you talking about?'

"'Ah, yes,' he said, 'I do occupy a good position there, and I think that I can get along with the way things are done there now. But these college-trained men, who have devoted their whole lives to study, are coming west, don't you see? And they study their cases as we never do. They have got as far as Cincinnati now. They will soon be in Illinois.' Another long pause; then stopping and turning toward me, his countenance suddenly assuming that look of strong determination which those who knew him best sometimes saw upon his face, he exclaimed, 'I am going home to study law! I am as good as any of them, and when they get out to Illinois I will be ready for them.'" Mr. Lincoln once visited Rockford on professional business in connection with this suit. On a hot summer afternoon, Mr. Lincoln, with one of the clients sat on an old log on the bank of the river and discussed the matter. Mr. Lincoln wore a long linen coat, and presented that picture of ungainliness with which the world is familiar. Mr. Lincoln was a guest at Mr. Manny's home, which was a small frame building that stood on the site of the Milwaukee depot. The company paid Mr. Lincoln \$1,000, which was the largest fee he had received up to that time.

The prolonged mental strain incident to perfecting his inventions and the trial of the suit undermined Mr. Manny's health. He fell a prey to consumption, and January 31, 1856, he passed away, in his modest home on South Main street, when he had just passed his thirtieth birthday. He never realized the wealth which his inventions would bring to others, nor the prestige which they would give to the Reaper City, nor the great name which he had made for himself. Financial reverses overtook the company in 1857, but it weathered the storm, and built an extensive plant.

After the death of Mr. Manny the name of the



Edmund



Harriet S. Lind

firm was changed to Talcott, Emerson & Company. In 1857 William A. Talcott, son of Wait Talcott, left Beloit College and assisted his father in the business. When Mr. Talcott became of age, in 1860, he was admitted as a member of the firm, the name of which was changed to Emerson & Company. Still later the name was changed to Emerson & Talcott, and Mr. Talcott was actively identified with the company until a short time before his death in December, 1900.

In 1895, forty-three years after its founding, the name was changed to the Emerson Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of agricultural implements. At this time Charles S. Brantingham severed his connection with the Nelson Knitting Company, and became the secretary and manager of the Emerson Manufacturing Company, which had then a capital of \$200,000. In 1899, the nine-acre tract of land just west of the Winnebago street viaduct was purchased; the capital was increased to \$500,000, and three years later was doubled.

In March, 1905, the original ninety-acre tract on South Independence avenue was acquired, and building operations were begun in April. Subsequent purchases of land have been made, and plant No. 3, in Rockford, now has over 200 acres.

In October, 1909, the name was changed to Emerson-Brantingham Company, and the capital increased to \$3,000,000. On July 17, 1912, the capitalization was authorized to be increased to \$50,000,000 with a view to taking over several manufacturing plants in other cities. In August, 1909, the Pontiac Buggy Company, of Pontiac, Mich., was removed to Rockford and operated as the Emerson Carriage Company. Its product is buggies, spring wagons, etc. In April, 1912, the plant of the La Crosse Hay Tool Company, at Chicago Heights, Ill., was purchased, and is still in operation at that point. The product is hay tools, manure spreaders, etc.

In August, 1912, the Emerson-Brantingham Company took over several plants, located in various cities. One was the Rockford Gas Engine Works, whose product was stationary gas engines. Another was the Geiser Manufacturing Company, at Waynesboro, Pa., also the plant of the same company at Greencastle, Pa., whose product is steam engines, separators, road rollers and sawmills. Other companies merged were Reeves & Company, Columbus, Ind., product,

threshing machinery and gas tractors; Gas Traction Company, Minneapolis, Minn.; Gas Traction Company, Ltd., of Winnipeg, Canada, product, Big Four farm tractors; Newton Wagon Company, Batavia, Ill., product, wagons and farm trucks; the American Drill Company, of Marion, Ind., which was removed to Rockford in July, 1914; its product is grain drills and seeders.

The Emerson-Brantingham Company operates the largest manufacturing plant in Rockford. It employs at times as many as 1,500 men, and its product goes to all parts of the world where agricultural implements are used. Beginning with 1852, when its founder, John H. Manny, made his first machines, the company has done business uninterruptedly sixty-four years. In this respect it stands alone. No enterprise with which the name of Ralph Emerson was prominently identified has ever failed. His Midas touch turned his ventures into gold. In his earlier years he was associated with strong men: John H. Manny, Wait Talcott, Sylvester Talcott, Jesse Blinn, William A. Talcott. When weight of years compelled him to take a less active part his mantle fell upon Charles S. Brantingham, and to his constructive ability is due in large measure the later success of the Emerson-Brantingham Company. The officers of the company are: president, Charles S. Brantingham; first vice-president, E. P. Lathrop; second vice-president, Fred Glover; secretary and treasurer, J. W. McLachlan.

THOMPSON MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

N. C. Thompson came to Rockford in 1857 and built up a large plant on the water-power. Early in the sixties John P. Manny perfected his combined reaper and mower and began its manufacture on the water-power. In 1860 he made a contract with Mr. Thompson to manufacture his machine on a royalty. The machine at once became popular. It was light of draft, simple in construction, and did splendid work as a reaper and as a mower. The demand was so large that more factories had to be built, so that the plant extended from Main street to the river. For a number of years the average output was about 4,000 machines annually. These sold at about \$150 retail. Mr. Manny, as inventor, received a royalty of \$15 on each machine. As Mr. Thompson made about four thousand a year he re-

ceived about \$60,000 a year for quite a number of years.

When the two-wheel reaper, made in Ohio, came on the market, Rockford lost its hold on the trade. It became a favorite and crowded out the one-wheel machines. Mr. Manny, at first, would not believe that the two-wheelers had come to stay, but finally set to work to bring out one of his own. It was a good machine and met with fair success, but the eastern machines had secured a big trade, and Rockford was unable to regain its position.

This led or drove Mr. Thompson into the manufacture of plows and cultivators. A contract was made with M. L. Gorham to manufacture his cultivators on a royalty basis. He received \$3.50 on each riding cultivator and \$2.50 on each walking machine. They filled the bill. The Gorham cultivators were popular with the farmers and thousands of them were made and sold. But the plow business was not a success. Thousands were made and shipped to the agents on commission. Many were returned and sent to the scrap pile. The Diamond plow was successful in a way, but it was high-priced. It was invented by L. W. Richardson, of Roscoe.

One of the inventions of which Rockford should have had the benefit was the twine binder. M. L. Gorham was the real inventor of that wonderful machine. Before its advent into the harvest field the sheaves were bound with wire. Mr. Gorham was sanguine that wire would be succeeded by twine, and he was right. He began to study and experiment in N. C. Thompson's factory. He had a number of skilled men to assist him, one of whom, T. M. Flenniken, was particularly inventive. At last a knot tier was invented, also a device for sizing the bundles and a machine was put together. It was tried in the field and imperfections were revealed. This delayed matters a year. Meanwhile other inventors were at work and one of them it is said, paid Mr. Gorham a visit, during which he learned much concerning the Gorham binder, went home and soon after brought out a binder of his own, which did the work. Mr. Thompson had expended thousands and thousands of dollars on the Gorham binder and finally had to sell his patents, which were purchased by the McCormicks for \$25,000. Six times that amount would not have reimbursed Mr. Thompson, yet he was helpless. The twine binders were in the market and they wrought a revolution in harvesting.

The profits on them were enormous, and he was in no condition financially to fight them. He made the best bargain he could. But the twine binder has made great fortunes for the McCormicks, the Deerings and others, an industry which should have made Rockford its home and Rockford people its beneficiaries.

Mr. Thompson failed with heavy liabilities in 1886. The company was re-organized and operated for a time, but finally passed into the hands of S. P. Crawford, who was appointed assignee and paid a goodly portion of the indebtedness.

Although the Emerson and Thompson plants were the largest on the water-power, they were preceded by several other manufacturers. About 1848 James B. Skinner began business, which developed into the firm of Skinner, Briggs & Enoch. He was a son of Deacon Stephen Skinner, who had a blacksmith shop on North Main street, where the Palace theatre now stands. James B. worked with his father some years in the shop, and then began business for himself. In 1850 he erected a larger building, and operated eleven forges. This blacksmith shop was said to be the largest in the west at that time. To this business he later added the manufacture of wagons. Mr. Skinner was the inventor of the first riding cultivator, rolling coulter, single riding plow and gang plow. In 1867 a Mr. Mead and C. C. Briggs were taken as partners. In January, 1868, Mr. Mead retired and was succeeded by A. I. Enoch, under the firm name of Skinner, Briggs & Enoch. Plows and cultivators formed a large part of their output. The company outgrew its limited plant and removed to the water-power. Mr. Skinner died in 1872, and C. C. Briggs and A. I. Enoch purchased the interest of the Skinner estate. The company failed and H. W. Carpenter was made assignee.

W. D. Trahern came to Rockford in 1848, and soon after began the manufacture of threshing machines and horse-powers, under the firm name of Trahern & Stuart. Mr. Stuart retired in 1856, and was succeeded by William Dales. He withdrew from the firm in 1862, and from that time Mr. Trahern conducted the business alone until his death in 1883. In later years Mr. Trahern devoted his exclusive attention to the manufacture of iron pumps. Mr. Dales subsequently engaged in the manufacture of the wood portions of grain separators, and did general job work in hard wood and sheet metal. After continuing for many years under the ownership of the Tra-

hern family, the company was taken over by the same interest that operates the Eclipse Gas Stove plant. The company is capitalized at \$120,000, and has 150 employees.

In 1851 Orlando Clark began the erection of a foundry on the water-power. He came to Rockford in 1847, and established a foundry on the West side race, where he remained until the old dam went out in 1851. He was one of the incorporators of the new water-power company a few months later.

In 1852 Isaac Utter came from Warsaw, N. Y., and formed a partnership with Mr. Clark, under the firm name of Clark & Utter. In the spring of 1853 this firm manufactured 150 combined reapers and mowers for John H. Manny. In 1869 the firm manufactured one thousand Gorham seeders. Their output also included sugar mills, evaporators and steam engines.

In 1854 John P. Manny began the manufacture of knife sections in Rockford for John H. Manny's reapers. He succeeded in producing a knife section that was hardened by his own peculiar process in oil tempering, which has never been surpassed to this day.

D. Forbes & Son established an iron foundry in 1854, and in 1864 the malleable iron works were added to the business. This plant was the nucleus of the Rockford Malleable Iron Works, now operated by George O. and Walter A. Forbes, sons of the late Alexander D. Forbes, and grandsons of the founder. The company has a modern plant covering ten acres, at Kishwaukee street and People's avenue. In 1913 the capital stock was increased to \$200,000. The company's specialty is castings for railroads, automobiles and agricultural implements, and 400 men are employed. Walter A. Forbes is president and George O. Forbes is secretary and treasurer.

William Gent came to Rockford in 1857, and was associated with John Nelson in scroll work, and later he assisted the inventor in perfecting his knitting machine. Mr. Gent was considered one of the best working mechanics in the state. He died June 20, 1887.

Frederick H. Manny came to Rockford in 1859, and built a large plant. He manufactured the John H. Manny combined reaper and mower, and the Rockford broadcast seed sower and cultivator combined.

Flouring mills were an important factor in Rockford industries. Moses Bartlett built a stone mill on the East side in 1854, with four

stories. Joseph Rodd came to Rockford from Canada in the autumn of 1853, and a few years later he embarked in the milling business on the east side of the river. The Troxell mill was built on the East side in 1853, and was purchased by Mr. Bartlett in 1865. Mr. Bartlett also owned a large mill on the West side. E. Derwent completed a mill on the East side in 1863. T. Derwent & Sons began milling business in West Rockford in 1859. This plant was later owned by A. L. Bartlett & Co.

There were also several planing mills. La-pointe & Derwent began business on the water-power in 1866. In the same year J. F. Lander erected a three-story structure, which was subsequently occupied by Blakeman & Dobson as a sash and blind factory, and later owned by the Rockford Bolt Works. Nelson & Co. began business in 1865. Campbell & Wood commenced business in 1866 in a building which partially covered a large foundation for a planing mill, laid by Thomas Garrison, at the west end of the dam, but never completed. George Bradley & Co. opened the first steam planing mill in 1868, in a building later occupied by C. J. Weldon as a carriage shop.

Among other early manufacturers were Bertrand & Sames, who began business in the middle fifties, and manufactured plows, sulky cultivators and vibrating coulters; Graham cotton mill, 1865; Rhoades, Utter & Co., paper mill, 1865; Rockford Woolen Mills, J. & W. Dyson, 1865; Northwestern Bolt Works, George Gunsaul & Co., 1866.

ROCKFORD BOLT WORKS.

One of the oldest plants on the water-power is the Rockford Bolt Works. The business began in 1866, under the ownership of George Chapman and Gilbert Gunsaul. The business was incorporated in 1877 with S. B. Wilkins as president, and he retained this position several years. The company is capitalized at \$20,000, and employs fifty men. C. R. Wise, who has been identified with the company since 1870, is secretary and manager.

As the manufacturing industry of Rockford developed it gradually grew away from the old water-power. This was made possible by the introduction of steam and later by electric and gasoline power. A small portion of the manufacturing plants are now operated by water-

power. Only one of the twenty-six furniture factories are in that district, and nearly all the larger concerns have been removed to or established in other parts of the city, where it is possible to secure more land. One of the results of this expansion has been the establishment of lunch rooms by the larger plants, where employes can obtain meals at a minimum cost. Some of these are on a large scale, with elaborate appointments and supervised by experts in domestic science.

A detailed mention of every plant in the city would exceed the limits of this chapter. On the other hand, no adequate conception of the magnitude of the manufacturing industry could be given without reference to some of the larger institutions that have borne a part in making the Rockford of today.

HESS & HOPKINS LEATHER COMPANY.

In 1866 L. M. Hess, Martin Krinbill and John Auman bought from G. Edson what is now the site of the Hess & Hopkins Leather Company. In 1868 it was rented to B. Hess & S. Tanner for three years. During this time the name was changed to Tanner & Cook, then to Tanner & Bronson. In 1871 Mr. Tanner continued the business alone. In 1874 L. M. Hess and H. H. Stone formed a partnership which continued for some three years. In 1877 H. H. Stone sold his interest to T. F. Hopkins, when it became the firm of Hess & Hopkins. In 1882 it was incorporated as the Hess & Hopkins Leather Company. The plant covers about ten acres. The present officers are L. M. Hess, president; A. F. Hopkins, vice-president; F. L. Morgan, secretary and general manager; G. F. Ehman, treasurer. The goods manufactured include harness, horse collars, saddles, fly nets and leather novelties, the company operating its own tannery and tanning harness leather, collar and skirting, and has recently started to tan sole leather. The capacity is 400 sides per day. The capital stock is \$500,000. Employment is given about 450 people and the pay-roll is about \$6,000 per week.

ROCKFORD BRASS WORKS.

The Rockford Brass Works was founded by the late Frank B. Trahern, and was incorporated in 1890 by his son, D. E. Trahern. The capital

is \$10,000, and sixty men are employed. The company manufactures brass and bronze castings, and supplies for plumbers, gasfitters and steamfitters. It also carries on an extensive jobbing trade. The officers of the company are: D. E. Trahern, president; F. D. Keeler, secretary; H. R. Trahern, treasurer.

W. F. AND JOHN BARNES COMPANY.

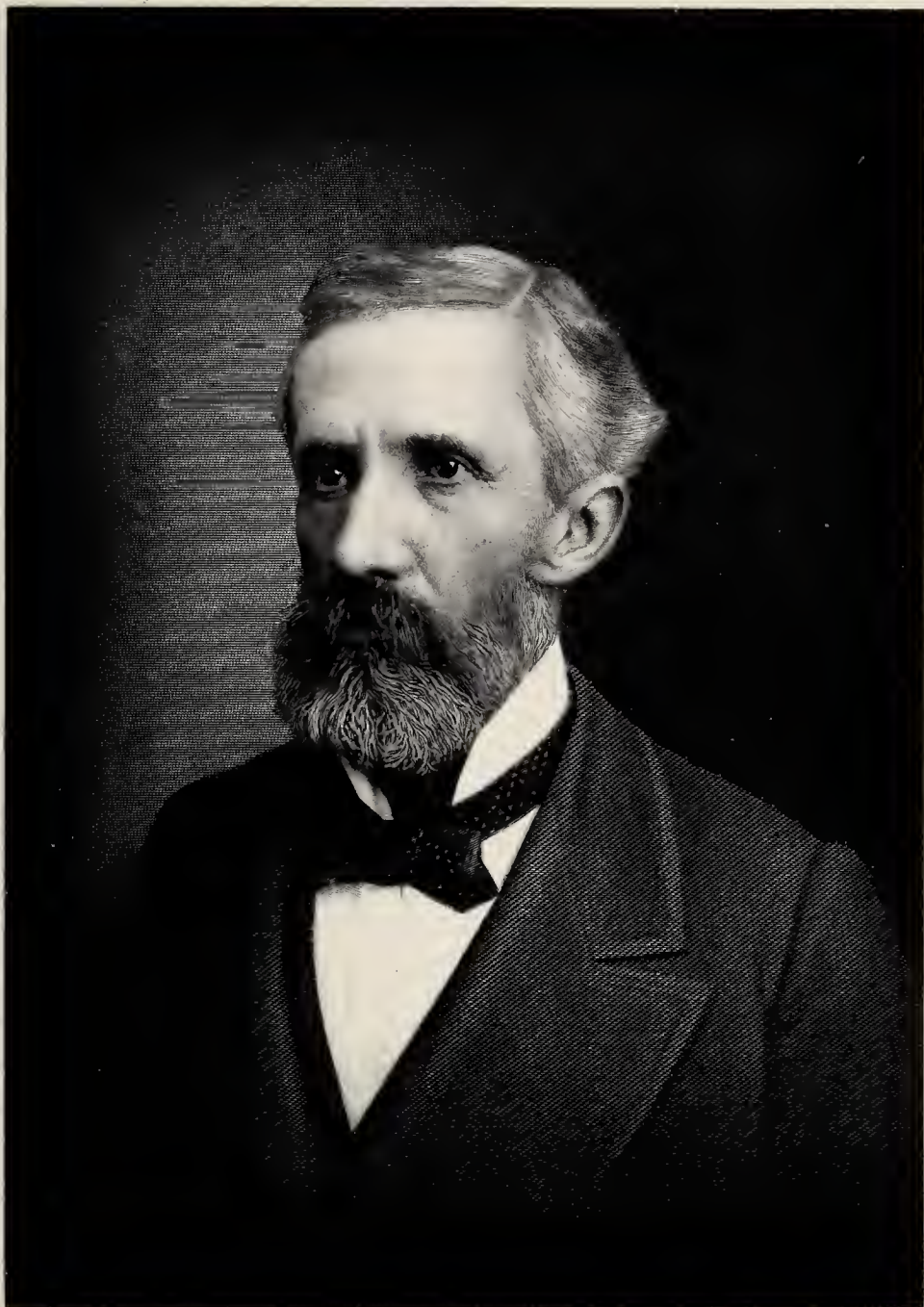
The W. F. and John Barnes Company is one of the most extensively known manufacturing plants in the city. It was established in 1872, and incorporated in 1882. It is capitalized at \$150,000 and employs 300 men. The company manufactures iron and woodworking machinery, and its machines are known as "Barnes drills" and "Barnes lathes." Many features of these drills and lathes are exclusive and are not to be found on other machinery of this class. Catalogues are printed in foreign languages to meet the needs of its export trade. The Barnes plant covers six acres. John Barnes is president and Aubrey Barnes is secretary and treasurer.

ROCKFORD WATCH COMPANY.

The Rockford Watch Company was organized March 4, 1874, with a capital stock which was soon increased to \$165,000. The first officers were: Levi Rhoades, president; H. W. Price, vice-president; H. P. Holland, secretary and treasurer. The company at one time manufactured twenty grades of "quick train" watches, which were sold over a wide territory. The business declined and passed into the hands of Irvin French as receiver, from whom the plant was purchased in 1901 by the present owners, M. C. and F. S. Eppenstein and Jacob Franks, of Chicago.

DOBSON MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

The firm of Blakeman & Dobson was established in 1880, and was located on the water-power. In 1883 the firm removed to the present site with an entire new plant. When Benjamin Blakeman retired from the firm the name was changed to its present form. The company makes a specialty of dairy appliances, consisting of revolving barrel churns, butter-workers, stock tanks and animal powers. It also handles building material and does general woodworking. William Dobson is president and manager.



Deposited by the Library of Congress

D.C. Littlefield

UNION FOUNDRY AND MACHINE COMPANY.

The Union Foundry and Machine Company was incorporated as a stock company in 1881. A few years later the plant passed into the control of George Peterson and he is now the sole owner, with W. G. Shapley as manager. The plant manufactures castings for machine tools and miscellaneous purposes, and does a strictly jobbing business. About fifty men are employed, and between 2,500 and 3,000 tons of iron ore annually consumed. The plant is on River street and occupies an acre and a half of ground.

ROCKFORD SILVER PLATE COMPANY.

The Rockford Silver Plate Company was founded in 1875 and incorporated under the title of the Racine Silver Company. It was carried on in that city until 1882, when it suffered a disastrous fire and the business was re-established in Rockford under the title of the Rockford Silver Plate Company. The original officers were: Henry W. Price, president; Irvin French, vice-president; George B. Kelly, secretary and treasurer. The original capital stock was \$100,000, and afterwards increased to \$125,000. The present officers of the company are: William B. Barbour, president; F. F. Wormwood, vice-president; L. A. Littlefield, secretary and treasurer. The business of the company is the manufacture of high grade silver-plated table ware, and the product is sold to the retail jeweler exclusively throughout the country.

ANDREWS WIRE AND IRON WORKS.

The Andrews Wire and Iron Works was founded by Charles Andrews, Sr., in 1885, in the John Spafford building, on the corner of Madison and Market streets, now occupied by the Union Overall Company. The plant was removed to its present location in 1890, and was destroyed by fire early in 1893. The Andrews Wire and Iron Works was incorporated March 6, 1893. About 125 people are employed and the sales reach an average of a quarter of a million dollars annually. The officers of the company are: Charles Andrews, Sr., president; A. G. Andrews, vice president; Charles Andrews, Jr., secretary and treasurer.

ECLIPSE GAS STOVE COMPANY.

An organization was formed in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1885, to make gas stoves under the trade name Eclipse. In 1887 the Van Wie Gas Stove Company, an outgrowth of the above organization, was incorporated under the laws of Ohio, with P. G. Van Wie as president, and in 1889 George D. Roper, of Rockford, Ill., purchased a half interest in the Van Wie Gas Stove Company and induced it to move to Rockford. P. G. Van Wie retained his interest and was president of the company; George D. Roper was secretary and treasurer. At this time H. W. Price, Robert McCulloch and Judge John C. Garver were stockholders. A brick building was erected in the North End on Huffman boulevard. This factory was destroyed by fire in September, 1894. After closing up the affairs of the old company George D. Roper secured all the rights and titles to patents, name and good will, and organized the Eclipse Gas Stove Company, which was incorporated under the laws of Illinois in January, 1895. Associated with him in the new company were his father, Major George S. Roper, M. J. Green and W. H. Gaffney. The newly organized Eclipse Gas Stove Company rented what was known as the Knowlton plant on the water-power. At that time and for several years they purchased their castings from outside foundries. In 1901 the business had increased to such an extent that a foundry was erected on ground leased from the Illinois Central Railway Company. Plans at that time were formulated to locate the factory on this property, which extended from Main street to within about 100 feet of the Winnebago street viaduct. Several large buildings were subsequently erected. In March, 1914, the building then occupied by the International Harvester Company was purchased as a warehouse; afterwards the space between this building and factory was enclosed, giving a frontage of about 160 feet on South Main street. In 1915 a plant was erected to do porcelain enameling.

The Eclipse Gas Stove Company is the largest gas stove plant in the United States, and manufactures gas stoves exclusively, distributing its product largely through gas companies in every state in the Union. The output covers a wide range of appliances, from ranges suitable for the largest hotel, to single burner hot plate, every part of which is made in its own factory, buying

only the raw materials, such as pig iron, sheet steel and brass.

This company has in successful operation a dining room where its men can buy their noon-day meal at the exact cost of the food and preparing the same, no allowance being made for factory space, heat or lighting. In addition club rooms are also furnished, and as an incentive to encourage saving, one per cent is paid by the company in addition to the three per cent paid by the bank.

WARD PUMP COMPANY.

The Ward Pump Company was organized in 1889, with a capital of \$50,000, and this is the amount invested in the plant at the present time. The original officers were: Frank Ward, president; G. H. Stanley, vice-president; F. Lane, secretary; Mary E. Ward, treasurer. After the death of Mr. Ward, his family continued the general ownership of the business. The present officers are: President, Miss Mary E. Ward; vice-president, Mrs. Belle Lamont; secretary and treasurer, O. W. Johnson. The company manufactures a general line of iron pumps, including hand, windmill, tower and spray. Some of this product finds a foreign market, especially in England. There are about seventy employees.

SPENGLER-LOOMIS MANUFACTURING COMPANY

The Spengler-Loomis Manufacturing Company is the outgrowth of two older organizations. Spengler Brothers opened a machine shop on the water-power February 1, 1891, with a capital of a few hundred dollars. In 1914 the Automatic Pencil Sharpener Company, of Chicago, removed its business to Rockford and a consolidation was effected with the Spengler Company under the name of Spengler-Loomis Manufacturing Company. The company is capitalized at \$120,000 and gives employment to 100 people. Its plant is at Kishwaukee street and Twenty-fourth avenue, where it manufactures a full line of hardware specialties and automatic pencil sharpeners. E. C. Loomis is president of the company and Charles C. Spengler is secretary.

INGERSOLL MILLING MACHINE COMPANY.

The Ingersoll Milling Machine Company was incorporated in Ohio in 1888, and was removed

to Rockford May 1, 1891. The company manufactures milling machines, heavy type multiple spindles, used by manufacturers of automobiles in finishing cylinders, crank cases, transmission cases; used by railroad shops in finishing locomotive side rods, driving boxes, shoes, wedges and cylinders; used by printing press manufacturers in finishing side frames, distributing tables and end frames; used by manufacturers of stationary gas and steam engines in finishing main engine frames; used by manufacturers of electrical machinery in finishing motor frames. These machines weigh from 30,000 to 300,000 pounds each. They are mostly driven by independent motors. The smallest sized machines require a fifteen-horsepower motor; the largest requiring a seventy-five-horsepower motor. The company is capitalized at \$1,000,000 and gives employment to 425 operatives. The officers are: Winthrop Ingersoll, president; W. C. Sproul, secretary; J. R. Johnson, superintendent.

FREE SEWING MACHINE COMPANY.

The Free Sewing Machine Company was organized under the name of Illinois Sewing Machine Company on May 14, 1895, with a capital stock of \$25,000. The stock was increased to \$100,000 on February 17, 1898. On February 16, 1910, the name was changed to the Free Sewing Machine Company. The capital stock was increased to \$1,000,000 on November 13, 1912. The managing officers are: W. C. Free, president, and V. M. Johnson, secretary and general manager. The company does a large business, manufacturing principally "The Free" machine, which is sold at a higher price than any other machine now on the market.

BARBER-COLMAN COMPANY.

The original partnership was formed between W. A. Barber, of Warrens, Wis., and Howard D. Colman, then of Beaver Dam, Wis., in June, 1891, and the first machine put on the market was a check pump for use in creameries. In 1900 the firm began the sale of a hand knot-tying implement for use in cotton mills, and established a branch office in Boston, Mass., and in 1901 the firm established another branch in Manchester, England. In 1902 they built on their present location at the corner of River

and Loomis streets, Rockford. In 1904 they put on the market a warp-tying machine, also to be used in cotton mills, and their present line of manufacture covers not only these cotton mill machines, but also a varied line of milling cutters and machine tools used by automobile manufacturers and other machine shops. The present number of employes at Rockford is about 1,000, and branches are maintained at Boston, Mass.; Detroit, Mich.; Manchester, England; Greenville, S. C.; Chicago, Ill.; Munich, Germany.

The present members of the partnership are Howard D. Colman, Luther L. Miller and Harry A. Severson.

NATIONAL LOCK COMPANY.

The National Lock Company was organized October 27, 1903, with a capital of \$5,000. This capital was soon increased to \$50,000. Then to \$150,000, and later to \$500,000. Its purpose is the manufacture of cabinet locks used by furniture makers. The goods now manufactured include cabinet locks, hinges and cabinet butts, furniture trimmings, wood screws and wire nails. The company originally employed 20 people, and now employs 450. The officers of the company are: P. A. Peterson, president; D. R. Peterson, vice-president; F. G. Hogland, secretary and treasurer; E. C. Traner, assistant secretary; V. B. Nelson, superintendent.

GREENLEE BROTHERS AND COMPANY.

Greenlee Brothers and Company is an Illinois corporation with a capital of \$500,000, and is engaged in the business of manufacturing special woodworking machinery, mechanics' tools for woodworkers and also a line of flat turret lathes for metal working. The business was originally established in 1866 by the two Greenlee brothers of Chicago. In later years it was changed to a corporation, of which W. B. Greenlee is president; James A. Lounsbury, vice-president, and George C. Purdy, secretary, treasurer and general manager. The plant was removed to Rockford in 1904, and at the present employs about 450 people.

J. L. CLARK MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

The J. L. Clark Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1904, and is capitalized at

\$100,000. Its product is lithographed tin boxes and cans and hardware specialties. The company has a thoroughly modern plant on Twenty-third avenue, between Fifth and Seventh streets. Its ventilating system is such that a complete change of air is made in the shops every ten minutes. An average force of 125 men is employed. J. L. Clark is president, and L. H. Clark is secretary and treasurer.

STONEFIELD-EVANS SHOE COMPANY.

The Stonefield-Evans Shoe Company is the outgrowth of a business founded by R. Anglemire, in 1873, and located on North Wyman street. It was incorporated as the Union in 1902, and re-incorporated under its present name in 1909. The capital stock for some years has been \$100,000, and in May, 1916, it was increased to \$250,000. P. A. Peterson is president and P. A. Anderson in secretary and treasurer. The company manufactures exclusively a high grade of men's shoes and employs 140 men. The daily output is 600 pairs. Some of this product finds a market in Hawaii and South America. The plant is located at Sixth street and Tenth avenue.

ROCKFORD DROP FORGE COMPANY.

The Rockford Drop Forge Company is comparatively a new industry, yet its growth has been rapid. It was incorporated in January, 1912, with a capital of \$100,000 and in February, 1915, it was increased to \$200,000. It is housed in a structure of solid re-inforced concrete and glass, which is one of the first of the kind in Rockford. Its product is for the use of automobile manufacturers and the makers of machine tools and consists of drop forgings, special parts and other articles in this line. Its business is entirely with manufacturers. The company employs 100 men. P. A. Peterson is president, and Levin Faust is secretary and treasurer. On June 1, 1916, the Drop Forge Company had orders booked ahead aggregating nearly \$1,000,000, which have been received from automobile plants in the country. The company is now erecting a large addition to afford facilities for its rapidly increasing business.

THE KING COMPANY.

The growth of the King Company has been phenomenal. It was organized in 1912 and did

business in an inconspicuous way in a frame building on North Madison street. In 1913 the company removed to quarters in the new Ziock building on South Wyman street. The King Company manufactures many articles that are used in the household. They include toilet soaps and preparatious, spices, extracts, cough syrups and proprietary remedies. In February, 1916, the company voted to increase its authorized capital stock to \$250,000. William H. Ziock is president of the company and William Seyler is secretary.

BURD HIGH COMPRESSION RING COMPANY.

The Burd High Compression Ring Company was organized November 30, 1914, and now has a capitalization of \$200,000. The sole product of the company is the Burd high compression piston ring, which is used extensively in the manufacture and repair of internal combustion engines of all classes, including automobiles, aeroplauces, stationary engines, tractors, etc. The company employs 250 men and produces 25,000 rings daily. The officers of the company are: R. L. Burd, president; A. A. Martin, vice-president and sales manager; F. F. Wormwood, treasurer; O. P. Hand, secretary and general manager. The company has branches and sales offices in seventeen American cities.

ROCKFORD'S KNITTING INDUSTRY.

Rockford is the greatest hosiery manufacturing center in the West. There are five factories, with a combined capital of \$2,130,000. They give employment to two thousand operatives and the value of their output under normal conditions reaches nearly \$5,000,000 annually. These plants manufacture all kinds of hosiery. Each, however, has its own specialty. Two make men's socks only; two make women's hose, and one makes hose for men and women. Rockford's pre-eminence in this industry has been achieved by the genius of two of her own citizens, John Nelson and William W. Burson. The machines perfected by them are used in the old world, in preference to all others.

In 1866 John Nelson and W. W. Burson, under the firm name of Burson & Nelson, undertook the invention of a family knitting machine. After prolonged and tedious effort a power machine was perfected. Patents were

issued in 1868-1870 and 1872-1873. On December 25, 1869, the part now known as the "presser hook" was developed. On July 23, 1870, the first sock was knit by an automatic machine in Rockford. The socks came from the machine joined together and were separated by hand, and the toes closed. In 1872-1873 the parallel row machine was developed. This was the real beginning of Rockford's great knitting industry. "Rockford seamless socks" were the first hosiery of the kind and drove the old time goods out of the market.

NELSON KNITTING COMPANY.

The Nelson Knitting Company was organized in 1870, and incorporated under the laws of Illinois in 1880, with a capital stock of \$50,000, which has been increased to \$160,000. The original officers were: William Brown, president; John Nelson, vice-president; A. S. Ruhl, secretary and treasurer. The first directors were: Ralph Emerson, William Brown, W. A. Talcott, John Nelson, F. R. Brown, William Nelson, A. S. Ruhl. The company manufactures men's cotton socks exclusively. Its patent automatic machines knit 5,000 dozen pairs of socks every day, or 60,000 pairs. Three million pounds of yarn is consumed annually. The Nelson gives employment to 500 operatives. The present officers are: F. R. Brown, president; W. H. Ziock, vice-president; A. S. Ruhl, secretary and treasurer.

ROCKFORD MITTEN AND HOSIERY COMPANY.

The Rockford Mitten and Hosiery Company was the second to enter the local field. It was established in 1881 as the Rockford Mitten Company. In 1885 there was a consolidation with the St. Charles Woolen Mills of St. Charles, Mo., and the name was changed to the Rockford Mitten and Hosiery Company. It was at this time that the late W. H. Ziock became the president of the company and retained this position until his death in 1905, when he was succeeded by his son, W. H. Ziock, Jr. The company has a capitalization of \$600,000, and manufactures woolen socks for men and hosiery for women and misses. It gives employment to 500 operatives. The product is marketed entirely in the United States. W. H. Heiliger is secretary of the company.



Engraved by Daniel Brodus N.Y.

Joseph G. Lyford

Printed by J. W. Parker

BURSON KNITTING COMPANY.

The Burson Knitting Company operates the largest plant of its kind in Rockford. It was incorporated in 1892 with a capital of \$24,000. The Burson machines were introduced and there are now two thousand of them in operation in the plant. They turn out five thousand completed pairs of women's hose every day. This product is sold mainly to the domestic trade; although it has found a market in South America, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and England. The company is now capitalized at \$650,000 and gives employment to 700 people. The plant covers two city blocks and the floors measure more than 165,000 square feet. Ralph Emerson was president up to his death in August, 1914. He has been succeeded by his son-in-law, William E. Hinchliff. E. P. Lathrop is vice-president, and N. F. Thompson, Jr., is secretary and treasurer.

FOREST CITY KNITTING COMPANY.

The Forest City Knitting Company is operated by sons of the late John Nelson. It was incorporated in 1890 with a capitalization of \$60,000, which has been increased to \$120,000. Its product, 3,000 dozen pairs a day, is men's cotton socks, and is sold to jobbers instead of the retail trade. There are nearly 150 employes on the pay-roll. William Nelson is president of the company; Oscar Nelson, vice-president; F. F. Nelson, secretary and treasurer. A fourth son, J. F. Nelson, inherits not a little of the inventive genius of his distinguished father, and he has contributed various improvements to the machines now in use.

B. Z. B. KNITTING COMPANY.

The B. Z. B. (Burson, Ziock and Brown) Knitting Company is the last to enter the local field. It was incorporated in 1910, and is capitalized at \$600,000. Its product is ladies' lisle, mercerized and silk hose, and its market is entirely in the United States. The company has 125 employes. W. H. Ziock is president and F. R. Brown is secretary.

S. B. WILKINS COMPANY.

One knitting company founded by S. B. Wilkins has been removed from the city. It was

incorporated January 1, 1884, with a capital of \$50,000 which was increased to \$75,000 and then to \$250,000. The company manufactured a full line of yarns and hosiery. The value of its yearly product sometimes reached \$450,000. S. B. Wilkins was president and J. W. Hart was secretary and treasurer. The business was removed to Kenosha in 1892.

THE FURNITURE INDUSTRY.

Rockford ranks third among the cities of the West in the manufacture of furniture. It is surpassed only by Chicago and Grand Rapids. There are now twenty-six factories in operation, which represent a capital, authorized and surplus, of approximately \$4,500,000. The total value of their product is approximately \$7,500,000 per annum. This vast industry is capitalized and operated almost exclusively by local Swedish-American citizens. The co-operative plan was popular some years ago, and still prevails to some extent, but in later years the capital has become more centralized. The stock in some of the factories is worth three or four times its par value and all stock in this industry is considered good. The industry in Rockford is engaged principally in the manufacture of "case goods," or, in other words, dining room and library furniture, consisting of buffets, china closets, extension tables, serving tables, book-cases, library tables, etc., of medium grade. Two factories manufacture chairs, one manufactures upholstered furniture, one makes bedroom furniture, while several plants manufacture music cabinets, cheval mirrors, hall seats, shaving stands, pedestals and wood lamps and shades.

The furniture industry has been entirely developed since the Civil war, and by far the greater portion is the product of the last quarter century. There were, however, individuals who made furniture in a small way at a much earlier period. The furniture industry proper dates from 1869, when Andrew C. Johnson began in a small way as sole proprietor on the water-power. In 1872 he formed a partnership with J. P. Anderson. The late Jonas Peters, then a traveling man, induced the firm to extend its business by the manufacture of new lines of goods. In 1873 L. D. Upson was admitted as a third member of the firm, and a factory on the site of the Central furniture plant was

erected. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Anderson retired, and E. L. Herrick became a member of the firm, which was known as Upson & Herrick. The factory was destroyed by fire January 21, 1877. William N. Upson, a watchman, and a brother of the senior member of the firm, lost his life.

FOREST CITY FURNITURE COMPANY.

A. C. Johnson, upon leaving the water-power, in company with J. P. Anderson established an independent business in a building at the corner of Railroad avenue and Seventh street. In 1874 Gilbert Woodruff became interested in the industry, and in that year the Forest City Furniture Company was organized. It is therefore the real pioneer in the manufacture of furniture on a large scale. Mr. Woodruff was president; Charles H. Keith, secretary and treasurer, and A. C. Johnson superintendent. Mr. Keith died in December, 1877, and was succeeded by Lyon P. Ross. W. F. Woodruff succeeded his father as president, and E. A. Clarke is now secretary and treasurer.

UNION FURNITURE COMPANY.

The success of the Forest City quickened the ambition of other practical men. The Union Furniture Company was organized in 1876. The promoters were Jonas Peters, John Erlander, John Pehrson and James Sundquist. P. A. Peterson, who came to Rockford from Sweden in 1852, was chosen secretary. This was the beginning of the business career of one of the most remarkable men who ever resided in this city; and is today the great organizing genius of the furniture industry in Rockford. He has been secretary of the Union forty years, and is interested in more home industries than any other citizen. The financial panic of 1893 left him with nothing save indomitable energy and the keenest sense of honor. Thus panoplied he retrieved his fortune, and has greatly augmented it. The Union plant was burned August 25, 1889. The company removed from the water-power to the southeast end, and established a plant which covers ten acres, and employs 225 men. The capital stock is now \$120,000. Robert C. Lind is president. The company's specialty is library and dining-room furniture.

CENTRAL FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Central Furniture Company was incorporated in January, 1879. The promoters were: S. A. Johnson, L. M. Noling, August Peterson, A. P. Floberg, A. G. Johnson, Peter Parson, H. F. Peterson, A. N. Noling, J. R. Anderson, P. J. Friberg and Samuel Lundin. The original capital was \$22,500, which has been increased to \$80,000. The Central is the only furniture factory on the water-power, and gives employment to ninety men. Its furniture finds a sale in Mexico and Canada besides the regular domestic trade. S. A. Johnson is president and Oscar E. Landstrom is secretary and treasurer.

CO-OPERATIVE FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Co-operative Furniture Company was organized in July, 1880, with a capital stock of \$25,000. The plant was destroyed by fire in January, 1888. The company was prosperous, however, until the financial depression of 1893, and for some years thereafter the plant was practically closed. In 1898 Charles J. Lundberg, the present secretary, purchased the interest of the stockholders, and placed the plant on a money-making basis. The company gives employment to 120 men, and sells its output entirely to the domestic trade. Alfred Larson is president.

ROCKFORD CHAIR AND FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Rockford Chair and Furniture Company dates from 1880. The company operates two establishments, known as Plant A and Plant B, which are two miles apart. The capital stock is \$100,000, and the normal business of the company requires the employment of 250 men. C. A. Newman is president, and Robert C. Lind is secretary and treasurer.

STANDARD FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Standard Furniture Company was incorporated in 1887. The original capital stock was \$75,000 and has been increased to \$125,000. The plant covers an entire block from Parmelee to Eleventh streets on Railroad avenue, and has 100,000 square feet of floor space. The Standard employs 150 men, and its entire product is sold in the domestic market. P. A. Peterson is

president, and A. L. Hultquist is secretary and treasurer.

SKANDIA FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Skandia Furniture Company was organized in January, 1889. The original authorized capital stock was \$50,000, which has been increased to \$100,000. The present officers are: P. A. Peterson, president; C. J. Swenson, vice-president; W. A. Brolin, secretary and treasurer. The plant employs about three hundred men. The products of the plant consist of complete dining-room and library suites, bookcases, odd pieces in oak, mahogany and walnut, and the "Viking" sectional bookcase.

WEST END FURNITURE COMPANY.

The West End Furniture Company was organized July 7, 1890, with a capital stock of \$50,000, which has been increased to \$100,000. Frank A. Ticknor is president, and J. H. Lynn is secretary and treasurer. The company has about 115 men on its pay-roll. Its product is principally dining-room and library furniture. The company is about to establish a foreign trade, and has recently placed an agent in Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic.

MECHANICS' FURNITURE FACTORY.

The Mechanics' Furniture factory, since its origin in 1890, has developed into one of the largest enterprises of its kind in the city. It is capitalized at \$75,000, and employs an average of 200 men. The company sent some furniture to England a few years ago, but it has never attempted to build up a foreign trade. P. A. Peterson is president, J. August Johnson, secretary, and A. P. Floberg is treasurer.

ROYAL MANTEL AND FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Royal Mantel and Furniture Company was incorporated May 10, 1892, with a capital stock of \$100,000, and it is still doing business on this basis. The company makes a full line of dining-room furniture, and caters entirely to domestic trade. There is an average of 115 employes on the pay-roll. R. C. Lind is president, and D. R. Peterson is secretary and treasurer.

ROCKFORD FRAME AND FIXTURE COMPANY.

The Cream City Mirror Plate Company was organized in Milwaukee in 1889, and came to Rockford in 1893. It underwent several changes, and was incorporated in 1901 under the name of the Rockford Frame and Fixture Company. The original capital was \$25,000, and it has grown to \$150,000. The plant covers four acres and has 100,000 square feet of floor space. The company now employs seventy-six workmen. A. G. Webber is president; C. F. Tholin, vice-president; Miss Marion Garmory is secretary and treasurer.

ROCKFORD CABINET COMPANY.

The Rockford Cabinet Company manufactures chamber furniture exclusively. It was incorporated in 1894, has a capital of \$60,000, and employs 280 men. The company sends goods to Cuba, Mexico and Canada. P. A. Peterson is president, and O. E. Landstrom is secretary.

ROCKFORD DESK COMPANY.

The Rockford Desk Company was incorporated in 1896. The plant was destroyed by fire January 15, 1912, but it was immediately rebuilt. The company is capitalized at \$54,000, and employs 100 men. R. C. Lind is president, and H. R. Truesdell is secretary.

ROCKFORD FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Rockford Furniture Company occupies the building of the old Burial Case factory, although a large addition has been erected. Its charter bears date of October 14, 1905, and has an authorized capital of \$150,000. One hundred men are employed, and the company makes a specialty of dining-room furniture. W. A. Brolin is president, and B. A. Wilson is secretary.

EMPIRE MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

The Empire Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1906, and has an authorized capital of \$200,000. It is engaged in the manufacture of what is known to the trade as "case goods," and employs 150 men. The plant is located at Eleventh avenue and Harrison. The

office of president is now vacant; F. G. Hogland is vice-president, and John P. Kowsky is secretary and treasurer.

ILLINOIS CABINET COMPANY.

The Illinois Cabinet Company manufactures a full line of "case goods," including kitchen cabinets and buffets. It is capitalized at \$200,000, and employs 140 operatives. John P. Lundell is president, and K. E. Knutsson is secretary. The company was incorporated in 1906.

EXCEL MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

The Excel Manufacturing Company, located on Seminary street, near the Illinois Central tracks, was organized in 1907, with a capital stock of \$25,000, which has been increased to \$50,000. Seventy-five workmen are now employed. A. P. Floberg is president; A. Carlson, vice-president and superintendent; J. A. Carlstrom, secretary and treasurer. The company has some indirect trade with South America.

ROCKFORD NATIONAL FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Rockford National Furniture Company manufactures dining-room furniture exclusively. It was incorporated in 1907, and is capitalized at \$100,000. C. F. Johnson is president, and August Peterson is secretary and treasurer.

ROCKFORD PALACE FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Rockford Palace Furniture Company is capitalized at \$30,000, and was incorporated in January, 1897. It manufactures "case goods" and employs 60 workmen. Anton E. Carlson is president, and Otto Grantz is secretary and treasurer.

ROCKFORD BOOKCASE COMPANY.

The Rockford Bookcase Company was formerly engaged in the manufacture of bookcases, but is now directing its attention to sewing machine woodwork. This product is used by the Free Sewing Machine Company and by manufacturers in other cities. It is capitalized at \$60,000, and employs 100 men. The officers are: P. A. Peterson, president; W. L. Anderson,

secretary; A. E. Johnson, treasurer. The company was incorporated in 1909.

ROCKFORD SUPERIOR FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Rockford Superior Furniture Company is one of the latest accessions to this industry. It was organized in November, 1910, and has a paid-up capital of \$100,000. The company has placed its product in the large buying centers, and has thus established a trade that has exceeded the expectations of the promoters for the first years. One hundred workmen are employed. P. O. Ugarph is president; N. J. Sandberg, vice-president; A. W. Mann, secretary and treasurer.

ROCKFORD CEDAR CHEST COMPANY.

The Rockford Cedar Chest Company was organized in 1911, and has a capital of \$20,000. It manufactures cedar chests exclusively, and has a capacity for turning out forty completed chests daily. Although it is comparatively a new organization, it has built up an excellent business. Adolph Ohlin is president; John Erickson, secretary and treasurer.

ROCKFORD LIGHT FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Rockford Light Furniture Company manufactures piano benches, floor and portable lamps, and a general line of mahogany lighting fixtures. It was incorporated in 1911, is capitalized at \$50,000, and now has thirty-two men on its payroll. The company has consigned goods to Canada, South America and the insular possessions of the United States. C. J. Lundberg is president, and Carl W. Pierson is secretary and treasurer.

ILLINOIS SCHOOL FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Illinois School Furniture Company was organized in February, 1912, with a capital of \$25,000, which was increased to \$50,000 in 1914. It manufactures office and school furniture, some of which finds a market in Canada and other countries. Sixty workmen are on the payroll. W. O. Jones is president; H. W. Williams, vice-president; T. E. Jacobson, secretary; and C. F. Bollman, treasurer.



Engraved by J. C. Brothman & Co.

Emily M. Lyford.

Copyright 1880 by J. C. Brothman & Co.

THE MONARCH FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Monarch Furniture Company was incorporated in 1914 to engage in the manufacture of kitchen furniture. Its capital is \$25,000, and 25 men are now on the payroll. Dr. F. E. Salisbury is president; E. K. Golding, vice-president; F. E. Salisbury, Jr., is secretary and treasurer.

OLD COLONY CHAIR COMPANY.

The Old Colony Chair Company is the latest organization to engage in the manufacture of furniture. Its sole product is dining chairs, of which it has a great variety of patterns. The company was incorporated in 1914, with a capital of \$15,000, and employs eighty men. Al Carlson is president, and A. R. Floberg is secretary.

WORLD FURNITURE COMPANY.

The foregoing is a complete roster of the furniture factories now in operation. The World Furniture Company was incorporated October 28, 1915, with an authorized capital of \$50,000. The company will erect a four-story building on Eleventh street for the manufacture of dining-room furniture. The incorporators are: E. W. Swenson, J. Godfrey Grant and H. E. Swenson.

Several other factories have been built from time to time that are not now in operation. The Excelsior, Phoenix, Rockford Cabinet and Diamond were burned and never rebuilt. The American Star and Palace Folding Companies failed and did not resume.

From 1916 Rockford will have a semi-annual furniture exposition, similar to those held in Chicago and Grand Rapids. The first exposition was held during the month of January in the new Riverside building in East Rockford. The exposition distinctly advances the importance of Rockford as a leading center in this industry. It brings to this city a splendid class of visiting business men from many of the states of the Union. It gives the furniture industry of this city a hold on the trade such as it has never had before. Rockford itself will be able to interest dealers as a point which it will give them pleasure to visit, especially during the summer.

THE PIANO INDUSTRY.

In 1891 Peter Nelson came to Rockford from Chicago and organized the Rockford Piano Company. Its plant was in what was then known as the Union Shoe Company's building, now occupied by the Union Dairy Company. The firm was short-lived, and failed in less than a year. In the autumn of 1891 John Anderson, of Erie, Pa., came to Rockford and organized the Anderson Piano Company, which occupied a part of the Cream City Mirror Plate building. The company failed in 1892, and H. N. Starr was appointed assignee. He removed the finished instruments to the Hale building, on Walnut street, where they were sold. The Anderson piano was subsequently manufactured at Minneapolis.

HADDORFF PIANO COMPANY.

The Haddorff Piano Company has one of the largest plants in the United States devoted exclusively to the manufacture of pianos. Its capacity is 12,000 pianos per annum, and there are not more than two factories having a larger output. The Haddorff was organized February 9, 1903, and has a capital and surplus of more than one million dollars. The officers are: P. A. Peterson, president; C. A. Haddorff, vice-president; A. E. Johnson, secretary and treasurer. The company finds a domestic market for its product, and thus has made no effort to dispose of its goods through export channels.

SCHUMANN PIANO COMPANY.

In 1899 the Smith & Barnes Piano Company, of Chicago, purchased the plant of the Illinois Chair Company in the North End, which was afterward sold to George K. Barnes, of Rockford, who established the Barnes & Son Piano Company in 1901, and manufactured pianos under that name until February, 1904, when he sold the plant to the Schumann Piano Company. This company was incorporated with a capital stock of \$300,000. It removed its manufacturing interests to Rockford from Chicago in February, 1904. The present Chicago office is in the North American Building, State and Monroe streets. The Rockford plant is finely equipped, with machines driven by individual electric motors, and every facility afforded for the man-

ufacture of artistic pianos. The annual output is 2,000 instruments. W. N. Van Matre is president, and W. N. Van Matre, Jr., is secretary.

KURTZ ACTION COMPANY.

Fred K. Kurtz, a native of New York City, came to Rockford in 1903, and October 14 of that year he began the manufacture of piano actions in the Union Shoe company building at Sixth street and Eleventh avenue. The business was small at first, but it steadily grew, until a stock company was organized, with P. A. Peterson as president; Fred K. Kurtz, vice-president and superintendent; John Anderson, secretary and treasurer. In April, 1905, the company purchased a plat of ground on Eighteenth avenue and erected a commodious factory. This company now has 700 employes on its pay-roll. Its officers are: C. H. Wood, president; E. I. Hocker, secretary; W. B. Thayer, treasurer.

OTHER MANUFACTURERS.

Other manufacturers January 1, 1916, were as follows: The Air Brush Manufacturing Company; Burt M. Allen; American Foundry Company; America Heating and Supply Company; J. E. Atchison; Atwood Vacuum Cleaner Company; Barnes Drill Company; A. L. Bartlett and Company; Bennett Piano Company; Paul P. Bennett; Nels J. Billstrom; The Blake Company; A. E. Block; Rockford Artificial Limb Company; Bracket Hook Company; J. J. Buhmeyer; Carty-Dever Packing Company; J. G. Clark Milling Company; Commercial Art Shop; Coppins and Lange Company; Cotta Gear Company; Cotta Transmission Company; H. G. Dickinson Machine Company; Duplex Colony Brooder Company; Eagle Claw Wrench Company; Eclipse Fuel Engineering Company; Ekroth Piano Company; W. H. Ernst; Farmer Bros.; Christian Finkbeiner; Flexotile Floor Company; Ford Manufacturing Company; Forest City Bit and Tool Company; Forest City Machine Company; Forest City Overall Company; Forest City Sheet Metal Company; Forest City Wholesale Grocery Company; Forest City Wire Works; J. M. Frewin and Company; The Gleichman Company; Graham Bros.; Green Bros. Box and Lumber Company; Hart and Page; L. W. Herbig; William A. Her-

rick; W. W. Hixon Company; Hohenadel Packing Company; C. E. Hoover; Houston Manufacturing Company; Jackson Manufacturing Company; Gust Jernberg; Joslyn-Chandler Electric Light Company; F. C. Johnson; Oil and Grease Company; Keig and Stevens Bakery; J. T. La Forge and Sons; F. W. Lindgren Company; Litton Veneer Company; Lynch-Jones Bedding Company; H. C. Marsh Company; N. E. Martin; Mayalac Laboratory; John McDermaid; Mechanics Machine Company; J. W. Miller Incubator Company; National Mirror Works; National Plating Works; Neilson Boat Works; M. N. Nelin Company; C. T. Nelson; New Illinois Stationery Company, Norberg and Mattes; Norse Pottery Company; C. E. Osborne; Ekstrom, Redin and Company; Reitsch Bros. Company; Reliable Machine Company; J. G. Rider Pen Company; Rockford Art Glass Works; Rockford Belting Company; Rockford Block and Silo Company; Rockford Brewing Company; Rockford Carbon Manufacturing Company; Rockford Cement Stone and Brick Company; Rockford Coca-Cola Bottling Company; Rockford Concrete Company; Rockford Cornice Works; Rockford Drilling Machine Company; Rockford Glass Bending Works; Rockford Hand Vise Company; Rockford Heating and Ventilating Company; Rockford Iron Works; Rockford Lathe and Drill Company; Rockford Leather Washer Company; Rockford Machine Tool Company; Rockford Manufacturing Company; Rockford Metal Specialty Company; Rockford Milling Machine Company; Rockford Mitre Box Company; Rockford Overalls Manufacturing Company; Rockford Paper Box Board Company; Rockford Paper Mills Company; Rockford Pattern Works; Rockford Plating Works; Rockford Rendering Works; Rockford Sand and Gravel Company; Rockford Shelf Support Company; Rockford Show Case Company; Rockford Sign Company; Rockford Steam Boiler Works; Rockford Steel Fixture Company; Rockford Tool Company; Rockford Upholstering Company; Rockford Vitreous Enameling Company; Rockford Varnish Company; Rockford Wall Plaster Company; Rockford Watch Case Company; Rockford Welding Company; Rockford Wholesale Grocery Company; Rockford Woolen Cloth Manufacturing Company; Rogers Bros. Galvanizing Works; Roseland Can and Specialty Company; Safe and Sanitary High Chair Company; Sanitary

Soap Fabric Company; Sawyer Cement Stone Company; Savage and Love Manufacturing Company; W. Shanhouse and Sons, Schultz Belting Company; Skandia Implement Company; Smith Oil and Refining Company; C. E. Sovereign Company; Standard Pattern Works; Star Bit and Tool Company; Sundstrand Adding Machine Company; Superior Mirror Works; Wait Talcott; C. P. Taylor; T. E. Tolleson Foundry Company; Robert Trigg and Sons; Douglas Ulrici; Union Dairy Company; United Fixture Company; Union Fluff Rug Company; Union Overall Company; Union Panel Company; G. H. Wall; Walsh Bottling Works; Mrs. J. J. Weldon; West Manufacturing Company; P. A. Wetzel Company; Whitacre-Goshert Manufacturing Company; Whitney Metal Tool Company; H. C. Wickwire Company; Wilson Bottling Works; Winlund Knitting Company; Winwal Company; Winnebago Machine and Tool Company; Wire Products Company; Woodward Governor Company; J. M. Woodward; Ziack Paper Box Company.

"MADE IN ROCKFORD."

Some idea of the magnitude and importance of the manufacturing interests of the city may be gained from the following list of articles, all of which are "made in Rockford:" Axe handles, artificial stone, air brushes, ale, agricultural implements, artificial limbs, axle grease, bedsteads, bent glass, building paper, brass goods, boxes, brick, blinds, bag holders, bustles, bits, bicycles, bed springs, bath tubs, bells, brooms, broom holders, boilers, boots, Baker's eye salve, baking powder, bags, bank fixtures, beer, Beach curling fluid, butter color, barrels, blank books, binders, bolts, barbed wire, flue stops, bedroom suites, band saws, brackets, bookcases, boats, brushes, brass pumps, buckwheat flour, bread, bread toasters, bureaus, carriages, cultivators, cotton batting, cotton yarn, carpets, clothes reels, cabinets, cigars, clothing, confectionery, check rows, corn planters, cornmeal, churns, crackers, chemicals, cement, chiffoniers, carpet stretchers, casks, ironing tables, ironware, canned goods, cake, corn shellers, clocks, coughdrops, coulters, circular saws, cuffs, collars, castings, concrete walks, drills, carriage top dressing, desks, dry plates, door frames, Devore's indestructible awl, derricks, dog powders, dyes, dressed lumber, dynamos, electric motors, electric

appliances, elevators, extracts, egg beaters, excelsior, furniture, folding beds, flour, mousetraps, mirrors, fence machines, feed grinders, farm machinery, gate hinges, foot powder, feed fertilizers, fanning mills, flour sifters, flannels, flower stands, feed mills, fly nets, fire clay, files, foot rests, force pumps, fly paper, feed cookers, fur garments, gasoline engines, gloves, glucose, gas, galvanized iron, glue, grain drills, gas stoves, gasoline stoves, graham flour, ginger ale, harrows, hardware and blacksmith supplies, harness, horse collars, hosiery, hand carts, horse shoes, hanging baskets, hat racks, heaters, hose nozzles, harness oil, hose reel, hitching posts, horse powers, hay presses, hay tedders, hangers, horse muzzles, harvesters, harness soap, hose supporters, ink, iron pumps, road carts, iron working machinery, iron cutters, ice cream, jig saws, japanned ware, jellies, jewelry, jointed hanging hooks, knives, knitting machinery, knit jackets, knit underwear, leather dashers, lathes, locks, log screws, lime, lawn settees, liquid stove polish, lard oil, lamp posts, leggings, lemon squeezers, lubricating oil, ladies' underwear, leather axle washers, maps, mowers, mattresses, mantels, malleable iron mantles, mittens, machine oil, monuments, mouldings, mop handles, mill supplies, milling machines, nails, nuts, neckyokes, nickelplated ware, Nudavene flakes, newspapers, nickel polish, oatmeal, oil cans, oil burners, office fixtures, plows, overalls, organs, planters, paint, post hole diggers, picture frames, pianos, pipe holders, pumps, pasteboard boxes, pumping jacks, pump cylinders, pencil sharpeners, pulleys, patterns, tables, tiling, parlor suites, potato mashers, perfumery, pedestals, photo plates, patent medicine, pop, paper, pillowsham holders, prison guards, punches, potato diggers, reapers, paperholders, pocket matches, rocking chairs, rock plaster, regulators, reversible broilers, refrigerators, road scrapers, rubber stamps, rye flour, shoes, rakes, razors, stencils, wire seeders, socks, stockings, sulky plows, sleighs, springs, shafting, steam boilers, strainers, steam fittings, steam pumps, shirts, sacks, sugar, syrup, string, suspenders, stair railings, steam heaters, sash, shirt boards, screen doors, silverplated ware, snuff, stove pipe, soap, sideboards, steam cocks, screws, spring hinges, scissors, sprinklers, shawls, swill carriers, stamps, strawboard, spring beds, shoe blacking, stove polish, sewer pipe, stepladders, slippers, secretaries, surgical instruments, sad-

dles, sieves, snow shovels, silverware, stall guards, sewing machines, silver polish, sorghum machinery, stoves, steam engines, toilet soaps, tacks, tank heaters, tinware, teeth, trunks, cheese, chairs, teapot stands, time locks, toys, tire shrinkers, toasters, tools, twines, tubular well pumps, umbrella holders, universal syphon, upholstered goods, valises, valves, vinegar, vitrified bricks, watches, varnishes, watch cases, wagons, watch keys, windmills, warp, water wheels, wheelbarrows, washing machines, wringers, washstands, whisky, well drills, wire fencing, wire cloth, wire signs, wire nails, forks, wire novelties, wrapping paper, wrought ironware, woolen goods, water casks, willow ware, wind engines, water pipe, water tanks, wash tubs, woolen yarn, wood jacket cans and wood filler.

There are today 225 manufacturing corporations and firms in Rockford. The principal industries are agricultural implements, furniture, knitting mills and foundry and machine shops. A few comparative figures will show the growth of the last quarter century. In 1891 there were 174 factories. In 1905 there were 180 plants, operating a capital of \$14,158,501, and giving employment to 7,239 wage-earners, and 618 salaried officials and clerks. In 1909 there were 205 plants, with a capitalization of \$22,411,997, and giving employment to 9,309 wage-earners and 1,214 salaried officials.

During the history of Rockford as a manufacturing city the usual number of factories have retired from the field for various reasons. Besides those previously noted may be mentioned the tack factory, the glucose plant, the burial case works, Rockford Shoe Company and the L. A. Weyburn Company.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

CEMETERIES.

There have been four sites used in West Rockford for the purpose of a cemetery. The first burial in the village of Rockford was that of Henry Harmon, who was drowned at the

ferry in Rock River April 7, 1837, on block 35 of J. W. Leavitt's plat of the original town of West Rockford. The Commercial Hotel, South Church street, is on the southeast corner of this block. The second interment was of the body of Sarah Kent, a daughter of Germanicus Kent, upon the same block, in 1837. The block was the only place of interment on the west side of the river until about 1840. The proprietors of that portion of the town west of the section line dividing sections 22 and 23, then gave to the citizens of West Rockford a plat of ground for cemetery purposes corresponding to block 53 in Morgan and Horsman's Addition to the city of Rockford, on the south side of State street. This block included the later estate of Dr. C. H. Richings. Mrs. Montague, wife of Richard Montague, was the first person buried in this ground. She died February 17, 1842. From that time this plat of ground continued to be the place of burial until 1844. The original proprietors of the town, by an agreement with the citizens, exchanged this place of burial for a site corresponding to what would have been blocks 37 and 48 of the original plat, on the north bank of Kent's Creek. This tract corresponds with the switch-yards, roundhouse and stockyards of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. The bodies were removed from the cemetery near State street and reburied in the new grounds. In the year 1844 the citizens, after several meetings, organized an association, and in February, 1845, they obtained a charter incorporating the Rockford Cemetery Association. Under this charter they elected their trustees and other officers, and kept up the organization in accordance with all the provisions of the act. The first trustees named in this charter were: John W. Taylor, Ephraim Wyman, Cyrus F. Miller, Richard Montague and Benjamin Kilburn. From 1844 to 1852 this site remained the place of burial for the Rockford Cemetery Association.

The extension of the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad to West Rockford again made it necessary for the association to remove its cemetery, as the grounds had been selected by the railroad company as the site for its depot. A portion of this tract was condemned by the company for this purpose. The association thereupon made arrangements with the railroad company for the sale of the entire property, except 70 feet fronting on Cedar street. The company



HORACE MARSH



MRS. HORACE MARSH

paid the association \$1,900. The frontage of 70 feet on Cedar street was subdivided into twelve lots, and sold to different persons for \$3,812.12.

In April, 1852, the trustees took measures to procure a new charter for their more extended needs. In the following May the association purchased of Charles Reed, George Haskell and Nathaniel Wilder, the present cemetery grounds. This tract contained thirty-three acres, for which the association paid \$1,200. On the 29th of May, 1852, the association made a contract with David D. Alling to remove all the bodies in the original place of burial on block 35, and those in the later cemetery.

At the special session of the legislature in June, 1852, the association obtained a new act of incorporation. The sum realized from the sale of its former property left a good margin after the later purchase. Quite extensive improvements were made with a portion of this reserve. In 1879 the association purchased of D. C. Littlefield seventeen acres on the north side of the first purchase. This accession makes the association the owner of fifty acres. In 1884 the receiving vault was constructed, and in 1891 the chapel was erected. Henry Lord Gay was the architect of the latter beautiful building. The present board of directors comprises: Robert H. Tinker, William T. Robertson, George O. Forbes and Robert Lathrop. Mr. Tinker is president, Mr. Robertson is treasurer, and Carroll Starr is secretary.

At an early date Daniel S. Haight appropriated an acre of ground for a cemetery in East Rockford. It was situated on the east side of Longwood street, about 10 rods north of State. The ground was open prairie. There was no shade from the summer sun, and the wintry winds intensified its desolation. An act approved February 18, 1847, provided for the incorporation of the Cedar Bluff Cemetery Association. E. H. Potter, Willard Wheeler, Bela Shaw, Selden M. Church, Hollis H. Holmes and Lucius Clark and their successors were made a body politic and corporate for this purpose. The association was not fully organized, however, until November 28, 1851. Twelve acres in section 23 were purchased from Bela Shaw, for \$400, subject to the dower of Rebecca Shaw. The tract was surveyed by Duncan Ferguson, April 3, 1853. Accessions include a strip of land purchased of A. Anderson, in 1877; five and one-third acres purchased of A. Anderson

in 1907; and the last addition, extending to Davis street, made in 1912. Perpetual care was inaugurated in August, 1886, and the receiving vault and iron gates were erected in 1898.

The trustees of this cemetery association are: Robert Trigg, president; Robert Rew, John L. Clark, H. H. Robinson and George C. Spafford, secretary and treasurer.

The Scandinavian Cemetery Association was organized in 1869. The officers are: C. A. Lundvall, president; C. F. Nordstrom, secretary; John Kullberg, A. J. Anderson and O. A. Olson, directors. There are fifty-six acres of land in the cemetery, twenty-six of which are in use.

CHAPTER XXIX.

ROCKFORD POSTOFFICE.

FIRST POSTMASTER—FIRST POSTOFFICE BUILDING—EARLY HIGH RATE OF POSTAGE—SUCCEEDING POSTMASTERS—AN EARLY POSTMASTER'S TRIALS—CHANGES BETWEEN 1837 AND 1861—LETTER OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN—SENATE REFUSES TO CONFIRM JASON MARSH—THOMAS G. LAWLER FIRST MADE POSTMASTER IN 1878—FREE AND SPECIAL DELIVERY ESTABLISHED IN 1882—JOHN D. WATERMAN FIRST MADE POSTMASTER IN 1885—LAWLER AND WATERMAN ALTERNATE FOR THIRTY YEARS—PRESENT POSTMASTER—FINE GOVERNMENT BUILDING—STUPENDOUS AMOUNT OF BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

FIRST POSTMASTER.

The first postmaster of Rockford was Daniel S. Haight, who served from August 31, 1837, to June 26, 1840. Previous to this time the small packages of mail had been brought from Chicago by parties who made trips to that city for supplies. An order for mail upon the postmaster at that office, to which each man attached his name, was left at Mr. Haight's house. The first mail was brought on horseback, the second by a carrier, and the third by open wagon with

two horses. After the postoffice had been established, the contract for carrying the mail was made with John D. Winters. About this time Winters became associated with Frink, Walker & Co. Still later Winters was on the line west from Rockford, and finally Frink, Walker & Co. carried the mail on the through line. Previous to January, 1838, the mail arrived from Chicago once a week. In 1839-40 the mails arrived from the west and east each three times a week. The northern and the southern mails came once a week; the mail from Mineral Point arrived on Saturday, and the mail from Coltonville came on Wednesday. The first mail pouch, in September, 1837, arrived with no key, and it was returned unopened. When the second mail arrived a key had been provided, but the postmaster was not equal to the combination, and he turned it over to Giles C. Hard, who solved the problem. Its contents, about a hatful, were received with a general handshaking. The postage was twenty-five cents for each letter, and stamps were unknown. These missives were read and re-read until they were almost committed to memory. They came from loved ones far away, and were regarded with a degree of sanctity. Letters from the east were from fifteen to thirty days in transit. Should the postmaster find that letters had been written to several persons, and enclosed in one envelope as a measure of economy in postage, he was supposed to collect twenty-five cents from each person so receiving a letter. Mr. Haight erected a small building 16 by 26 feet, one and a half story, in the summer of 1837, for a postoffice, near 107 South Madison street. There were about twenty-five boxes. This building was used until the following year, when Mr. Haight erected a more commodious structure, near 312 East State street, with ante-room and boxes. This building was used for this purpose during several administrations.

In August, 1841, there was a sudden change in the postmaster at Rockford. Edward Warren had been appointed in May to succeed Daniel S. Haight. Mr. Warren was a brother of Mrs. Charles H. Spafford. He built the upright part of the house now owned by Dr. Daniel Lichty, on the corner of Third and Walnut streets. Mr. Warren was succeeded in the summer of 1841 by Selden M. Church, who served two years, and was followed by Charles H. Spafford. Mr. Warren subsequently went to

Paris, and was a student in the Latin Quarter during the revolution of 1848.

In August, 1843, Charles H. Spafford was appointed postmaster. Mrs. Spafford recalls interesting reminiscences of those days. She says: "The postoffice business was not large at that time; there were no clerks. The mail came at night, and required the postmaster to get out at midnight or very early morning to change the mail. What seems more strange, the postoffice money was kept at the house in my dressing bureau. Mr. Spafford was accustomed to come home late in the evening, bringing a bag of money. In those times of burglaries all this occasioned me a good deal of anxiety, as I was alone so much of the time when Mr. Spafford was at the office; especially as houses were not securely built in those days. I was not sorry when the robber band that had been committing the burglaries around, were secured and taken to Joliet."

In July, 1845, Charles I. Horsman received the appointment. The postoffice was removed to the West side, nearly opposite the Winnebago House. The office has remained on the West side to this day. B. G. Wheeler was appointed in May, 1849, and served four years. In June, 1853, Charles I. Horsman received a second appointment, and served until 1857. G. F. Hambright succeeded Mr. Horsman, in March, 1857, and held the office four years.

Melancthon Smith was commissioned by President Lincoln in 1861. Mr. Smith subsequently enlisted in the service of his country in the Civil war, and went to the front with the Forty-fifth Illinois regiment. He was first chosen captain of his company. The regiment was known as the Lead Mine Regiment, and went into camp at Galena. Upon the organization of the regiment he was chosen major, and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Colonel Smith won distinction at Donelson and Shiloh. During his absence the postoffice was in charge of Mrs. Smith. On June 25, 1863, Colonel Smith was mortally wounded at the storming of a fort at Vicksburg by General Logan's division. He lingered three days in a state of half-consciousness, and died Sunday morning, June 28th, in the thirty-sixth year of his age.

After Colonel Smith's death the local politicians supported David T. Dixon as the logical candidate for his successor in the postoffice.

A petition, however, was numerously signed by the citizens, asking for the appointment of Mrs. Smith. Melancthon Starr, who was a cousin of Colonel Smith, went to Washington and presented the matter to President Lincoln. The president endorsed her application, and sent a letter to the postmaster-general, of which the following is a copy:

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, July 24, 1863.—*Hon. Postmaster-General*: Yesterday little indorsements of mine went to you in two cases of postmasterships sought for widows whose husbands have fallen in the battles of this war. These cases occurring on the same day brought me to reflect more attentively than I had before done, as to what is fairly due from us here in the dispensing of patronage toward the men who, by fighting our battles, bear the chief burden of saving our country. My conclusion is, that other claims and qualifications being equal, they have the better right, and this is especially applicable to the disabled soldier and the deceased soldier's family.

"Your obedient servant,

"A LINCOLN."

Mrs. Smith accordingly received the appointment, and completed the term. She became the wife of General A. L. Chetlain, of Chicago, and was a sister of Mrs. Julia A. Clemens, of Rockford.

Mrs. Smith was succeeded by Hon. Anson S. Miller, who assumed the duties April 1, 1865. Judge Miller removed the office from the Holland House to the Brown's hall block. He retained the office six years.

One of the most unique chapters in local political history is wholly unknown to the present generation. It was the refusal of the United States Senate to confirm Colonel Jason Marsh as postmaster of Rockford. On June 7, 1866, while Judge Miller was still holding the office, Colonel Marsh addressed a personal letter to President Johnson, in which he urged his own claims to an appointive office. He referred to his services in the Civil war and asked that in recognition thereof he be appointed either district attorney at Chicago or postmaster at Rockford. He told President Johnson he had always been a Republican, and concluded his appeal with this notable declaration: "But I am not of the class who question the integrity or sincerity of your purpose for the restoration

of the Union, or who think that it is wise for congress to have got up the unfortunate controversy now pending."

Several illustrious Americans have made their fatal mistake in writing a letter at the wrong time, and Col. Marsh signed his political death warrant in his message to the president. It implied a rebuke of congress, which had locked horns with the executive on the conduct of the government. President Johnson nominated Colonel Marsh for postmaster, and the senate of the United States, believing that the colonel had "bowed the knee to Baal," on July 23, refused to confirm the nomination. This incident is not only of local historic interest, but shows that the "greatest deliberative body in the world" was swayed in a minor appointment by the passions of the hour.

In 1871 Charles H. Spafford was appointed postmaster by President Grant and served four years. On February 20, 1875, President Grant sent to the senate the name of Abraham E. Smith, editor of the Gazette, for postmaster at Rockford. Mr. Smith was confirmed February 24, received his commisison March 23, and assumed the duties of the office April 1. In December, 1875, Mr. Smith removed the postoffice to that part of the block on the river bank now occupied by the Register-Gazette.

The choice of a successor to Mr. Smith was informally determined by a direct popular vote of the citizens. Mr. Smith was a candidate for reappointment but he refused to go before the people. At a special election held Saturday, December 21, 1878, Israel Sovereign received 214 votes; Thomas G. Lawler, 1,689, a majority for the latter of 1,475. The name of Colonel Lawler was sent to the senate by President Hayes February 19, 1879. He was confirmed February 22, and began the duties of the office March 15. Colonel Lawler was reappointed by President Arthur.

FREE AND SPECIAL DELIVERY ESTABLISHED.

On October 1, 1882, free delivery of mail by carriers in the city was established; and three years later, October 1, 1885, special delivery was inaugurated. Only three letters were delivered on that day.

On October 5, 1885, considerably more than a year before the expiration of Colonel Lawler's second term, President Cleveland appointed John

D. Waterman as postmaster, and he began his duties November 2. Mr. Waterman's term expired during the administration of President Harrison and Colonel Lawler was reinstated. When Grover Cleveland was elected president a second time he again appointed Mr. Waterman. His name was sent to the senate December 19, 1893, and confirmed January 8, 1894. With the advent of William McKinley to the presidency, Colonel Lawler was again appointed. His nomination was sent to the senate January 13, 1898, and he continued in office until his death, February 3, 1908. Colonel Lawler enjoyed the unique distinction of receiving commissions as postmaster of Rockford signed by five presidents of the United States: Rutherford B. Hayes, Chester A. Arthur, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt. For a period of thirty years the postmastership see-sawed between Thomas G. Lawler and John D. Waterman.

On February 12, 1908, President Roosevelt sent to the senate the name of Howard O. Hiltou for postmaster to succeed Colonel Lawler. The nomination was confirmed the same day without reference to committee, which was an unusual proceeding. Mr. Hiltou assumed the office March 6. He was reappointed by President Taft, January 23, 1912. His official term covered nearly two years of President Wilson's administration. Mr. Hiltou held the office nearly seven years, and under three presidents. He retired January 25, 1915.

William H. Hefferau, the present incumbent, was nominated by President Wilson December 17, 1914, and assumed its duties January 25, 1915.

Fred Wheat is a veteran in the postal service. He first entered the local office in April, 1866, and has thus devoted nearly half a century to this branch of the government service. There was an interval of fourteen years when he was in the railway mail service. He then returned to the city office, where he has since remained. He was assistant postmaster from 1889 to the summer of 1915, when, under a complete reorganization, the office was abolished. Mr. Wheat still retains an important executive position.

The government building was authorized by Act of Congress approved February 9, 1891, and an appropriation was made by an act of March 3, 1891. It is located on the southwest corner of Main and Green streets. The land was se-

cured by purchase February 2, 1892, for \$17,500. The building was completed and occupied October 1, 1895. The cost of construction was \$82,169.14. It is constructed of Portage red sandstone, and originally contained a space of 186,000 cubic feet. It has since been enlarged.

A few figures will indicate the magnitude of the business done at the Rockford postoffice. The sale of stamps and postal cards for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915, was \$262,000. The money order business for the same period amounted to \$1,800,000. The postal savings for the year were \$60,000. There are ninety-four men permanently employed, divided as follows: In office, thirty-eight; carriers in city, forty-two; rural carriers, twelve. There are also twenty-seven substitutes, comprising six office men, nine city carriers and twelve rural carriers. There are five contract stations, established as follows: No. 1 March 4, 1896; No. 2 July 1, 1899; No. 3 July 1, 1899; No. 4 July 1, 1902; No. 5 July 1, 1902. The East Rockford station was established January 1, 1911. Rural delivery was established July 23, 1900.

CHAPTER XXX.

ROCKFORD PARK SYSTEM.

A CITY OF PARKS—PARK BOARD ORGANIZED IN 1909
 —TWENTY-FIVE PARKS, SQUARES AND TRIANGLES
 — SINNISSIPPI — HASKELL — HAIGHT — FAIR-
 GROUNDS—VOGT—WILLIAMS — SUNSET — CRAW-
 FORD—KIMBALL—RIVER VIEW—BLINN—MYOTT—
 HULIN — BROWN — BLACK HAWK — SOUTH —
 SOUTHEAST — JOHN SPAFFORD — FRANKLIN —
 NORTHWESTERN — BOILVIN — LOVELACE POINT—
 LONGWOOD POINT—BEATTIE—TOTAL AREA—COST
 OF PARK SYSTEM—OFFICERS OF PARK DISTRICT.

The statute under which the Rockford park district was organized was passed in 1895.

The movement for a park system for Rockford began in February, 1909. The Rockford club had just completed its organization when the question arose, "What are we here for?" The members were public spirited and ready for



E C Maynard

business; but where should they begin? Robert Rew drafted a petition to Judge Reckhow, as required by law, asking him to submit the question to the voters. This petition, which bears the date of February 2, 1909, described the boundaries of the proposed park district as co-extensive with Rockford Township. Judge Reckhow thereupon issued a call for a special election, to be held March 27.

A spirited "campaign of education" followed. The officers of the Rockford club took the initiative and nominated the candidates for the first board of park commissioners upon a non-political basis. Public addresses played a part in creating park sentiment. Robert Rew made an eloquent plea before the Manufacturers' and Shippers' association, and repeated it in substance before the Men's club of the Second Congregational church. Fred E. Carpenter also made addresses. The newspapers donated advertising, and the citizens gave their services as judges and clerks of election. The proposition carried at the election. There were 2,181 votes cast. There were 795 votes against and 155 blanks. The commissioners elected were Fred E. Carpenter, Robert H. Tinker, H. W. Williams, George D. Roper and Levin Faust.

PARK BOARD ORGANIZED.

The board of commissioners for the Rockford park district was formally organized April 20, 1909. The terms of office of the commissioners were determined by lot as follows: Fred E. Carpenter, one year; George D. Roper, two years; Henry W. Williams, three years; Levin Faust, four years; Robert H. Tinker, five years. Fred E. Carpenter was elected president and legal adviser; Frank J. O'Brien, secretary, and Martin Kjellgren, treasurer. The terms of the secretary and treasurer were fixed at two years and they were to serve without compensation until their duties entitled them to a fixed salary. The commissioners had no money. No tax levy was available, and no bonds had been negotiated. A fund for immediate use was necessary, and three local banks offered to finance their operations. The Third National, the Winnebago National and the People's Bank and Trust company offered to loan the sum of \$47,500 needed for immediate use, at six per cent interest. This sum was advanced by the three banks in equal amounts, on notes personally

guaranteed by individual members of the board. The rule was established at one of the first meetings of the board, that the treasurership should be given in turn to representatives of the several banks of the city, beginning with the three which had jointly made the loan above noted.

SINNISSIPPI PARK.

The first important transaction of the park board was the purchase of the "Rood woods." It was the option on this tract for a limited time that made the temporary loan from the banks a necessity. The owner of the property was the Hon. Edward C. Waller, of Chicago. The tract consisted of seventy-seven acres, for which the park commissioners paid \$47,500. June 24, 1909, the park commissioners passed an ordinance providing for a bond issue of \$100,000. These bonds were dated July 1, 1909. They were sold at par to DeWitt, Tremble & Company, of Chicago, and bear four per cent interest. The indebtedness at the banks was paid from the proceeds, and the balance was devoted to the extension of the park system. The commissioners subsequently purchased forty acres adjoining from the Cassidy estate, for \$16,080. Block one of Arlington Heights subdivision, consisting of six lots, adjoining the most beautiful part of the park woods on the south, was purchased from W. W. Sawyer for \$960. A second tract was secured from Mr. Sawyer for \$8,476.26. The total area sold by that gentleman was six acres. The entire first cost of the land of Sinnissippi park was \$73,016.26.

Sinnissippi park comprises 123 acres. It is therefore the largest in the district and its area is nearly equal to that of all other parks combined. The park was given its name to keep alive the Indian name for Rock River, Sinnissippi, which means "clear flowing." A first-class roadway has been constructed from the north to the south entrance, winding through the park a distance of one mile. This roadway is built of brick on a concrete foundation, and was so constructed on account of the condition of the sub-soil and drainage. The park board has adopted a rule requiring all vehicles to enter from the south drive and make all exits from the north. This precaution has been taken against accidents that are possible on

the steep grade and short curves of the driveway. A well has been drilled to a depth of 411 feet. A ten horse-power electrically driven pump has been installed, which can furnish 43,200 gallons of water in ten hours' pumping. A 50,000 gallon tank was erected. The park is provided with shelter house, golf links, tennis courts, baseball diamond and athletic field.

CITY TRANSFERS PARKS.

January 24, 1910, the city council of Rockford, by ordinance, transferred the management of thirteen parks, squares and triangles to the board of park commissioners. These parks are: Haskell, Haight, Fairgrounds, Vogt, Williams, Sunset, Crawford, Kimball, Riverview, Blinu, Myott, Hulin and Brown's triangle. The city did not convey title to this property, but turned over its maintenance to the park board, as provided by the statute creating park districts.

HASKELL PARK.

Haskell park is one of the oldest in the city. It consists of two acres and occupies a central position in the old residence district of West Rockford. It was given to the city of Rockford by Dr. George Haskell and his brother-in-law, John Edwards. The former came to Rockford in 1838 and the latter in 1850. This tract was platted October 2, 1849. A street called Edwards place, now closed, forms the southern boundary of the park. The commissioners have allowed the children of Lincoln school the use of a narrow strip on the south side of the park for a playground. The trees in Haskell park are among the finest in the city. The larger number are elms, some of which have attained great size. There are, however, many native forest oaks, of great age and stately proportions. These trees withstood the tornado that once swept the city, and the damage to the park was very slight. It was not until the park was placed under the supervision of the district commissioners that any attention was given to shrubbery and flowers. Interior cement walks have been laid, and they are appreciated by the thousands who use them every day.

Haskell park, with its shrubbery and flowers, its wealth of beautiful trees, through which the moonlight softly steals, and the music of laugh-

ing waters, leaping from the fountain, is a veritable "midsummer night's dream."

HAIGHT PARK.

Haight park occupies a position in East Rockford corresponding to that of Haskell park on the west side. It derives its name from the original owner, Daniel Shaw Haight, the first white settler in East Rockford. He came here in 1835, and left in the winter of 1847-48. There is a tradition, which has been commonly accepted, that Mr. Haight became a soldier in the Confederate army, and that he died at Fort Worth, Tex., after the Civil war. All of original East Rockford was platted by Mr. Haight, November 7, 1843.

Fortune has been less kind to Haight park than to Haskell. The older trees have died or been destroyed by storm. These have been replaced by younger growth, consisting of hard maple, walnut and ash. The natural soil consists of black sand three inches deep, with a substratum of gravel of considerable depth which cannot retain and store water to sustain growth in dry weather. The soil in the shrubbery beds has been changed to a heavy loam.

FAIRGROUNDS PARK.

The decline of the old time county fair prepared the way for the acquisition of its realty for park purposes. February 2, 1904, the Winnebago County Agricultural society authorized its board of directors to negotiate for the sale of the grounds to the city of Rockford. A committee representing the directorate addressed a letter to the city council under date of February 8. This communication was signed by Wait Talcott, E. P. Lathrop and W. M. Kimball, who signified their willingness to receive proposals. Negotiations were prompt, and a deed transferring the property to the city was executed April 8, 1904. The consideration was \$4,020, the amount of the indebtedness of the agricultural society, and an additional sum of \$1,500 "to be used as far as necessary in the redemption or payment of the unpledged or undonated shares of stock in said society now outstanding."

Fairgrounds park, by reason of its central location, receives a large patronage. The board erected a concrete dam over Kent creek, that

affords a swimming pool in summer, and a skating pond in winter. The southeast corner of the park has been converted into a sunken garden, which contains perennials and a fountain. It is a beauty spot during the summers. A nursery on the west side of the creek furnishes hardy plants for the entire park system, and is kept stocked to its full capacity. The nearness of flowing water makes this an ideal place for the purpose. The beautiful drives about the park make it a popular resort.

VOGT PARK.

Vogt park is a triangular piece of ground at the intersection of East, North Fifth and Jefferson streets, and is perhaps the most beautiful of the smaller parks of the district. It was given to the city by Mrs. John Vogt and Mrs. A. E. Goodwin. Mrs. Vogt in her will also bequeathed \$1,000 to the city, the income of which should be used in maintaining the park. This sum is invested in a city bond, which bears four per cent interest, or \$40. It costs about \$100 annually to maintain the park, and the balance has been made up by residents in the vicinity. Vogt park has therefore never been any expense to the city or park district. It has an area of 6,057 square feet.

WILLIAMS PARK.

Williams park is located in the 1400 block on the south side of East State street, and contains 16,074 square feet. It was donated to the city of Rockford by the late Brundage C. Williams, July 8, 1882. Mr. Williams was a descendant of Roger Williams. He died in Rockford a few years ago.

Williams park has been encircled with curbing, and the curbs of adjacent property have been improved accordingly. A prismatic drinking fountain has been erected on State street, which is surrounded by a wrought iron railing. Cement walks lead to and around the fountain.

SUNSET PARK.

Sunset park was created to meet the demands of the rapidly growing west end of the city. It is located north of Mulberry street, east of Albert avenue, south of Peach street and consists of four and one-half acres. That portion

of the park which was turned over by the city to the board was formerly the pesthouse property. Frank A. Ticknor, who platted the property, conveyed by quit-claim his title to a tract to the park board without compensation. The board has since purchased lots 10 and 11 inclusive, in block 6 of Ticknor's subdivision, and that portion of Douglas avenue lying between the land purchased and the pesthouse property was vacated by the city. Sunset park has a baseball diamond and four tennis courts, and is a popular resort for the youth in that section of the city.

SMALLER PARKS AND TRIANGLES.

Crawford park or triangle is named in honor of the late Hon. S. P. Crawford, a former mayor of the city. Its area is 2,420 square feet.

Kimball triangle, on Fisher avenue, is named in honor of the late Henry P. Kimball, who owned property in that vicinity.

River View is more familiarly known as Waterworks park. The most attractive portion of this popular water front was sacrificed for the erection of a reservoir, which involved the removal of fountain, drinking fountain, several flower beds and considerable lawn. On account of building operations on the reservoir, the park could not be kept up to its early standard of neatness.

Blinn triangle is at the intersection of North Main street and Harlem boulevard. It bears the name of an old Rockford family, the founder of which was Jesse Blinn, who settled here in 1850.

Myott triangle is on Auburn street. It derives its name from Catherine Myott, a half-breed Winnebago Indian woman. Her sale of a section of land to Nicholas Boilvin in 1835 was the first individual conveyance of land in Winnebago County.

Hulin triangle, also on Auburn street, was named for William Hulin, who settled in Rockton in 1838, and came to Rockford a few years later. He was clerk of Winnebago County from 1849 to 1855.

Brown's triangle is situated at the junction of Woodlawn avenue and North Winnebago street. The triangle has a fountain and an area of 1,890 square feet.

BLACK HAWK PARK.

The third notable purchase was what had been familiarly known as the "Lathrop woods," for which the park board paid \$46,205. This tract consists of eighty acres, and became the property of the park district in 1911. It has been given the name of Black Hawk in honor of the famous chief of the allied tribes of the Sacs and Foxes, who followed Rock River into Wisconsin in his retreat during the Black Hawk war. The late Hon. William Lathrop owned the tract for many years, and planted a large number of trees. Among the varieties may be mentioned linden, walnut, ironwood, elm, hard maple, sycamore and haw. Among the climbers are bittersweet, clematis, wild grape and woodbine. Nature has done much for Black Hawk, and the skill of the landscape artist will in time transform it into a dream of beauty. Black Hawk has a frontage of 3,000 feet on Rock River. Interior drives and shelter house are features.

SOUTH PARK.

On March 14, 1910, the park board purchased of George Cormack the real estate known as the Rockford Engine works property, in South Rockford. Additional tracks were secured from F. E. Mohns, Condon Thomas, Carter McCabe and J. T. LaForge. The last purchase included the Montague house. The park comprises five acres. Perhaps no other park in the entire district has been of greater service to the people. It is accessible to a large foreign-born population, which has given it a continuous and liberal patronage. The total cost of the land was \$5,256.95.

MANDEVILLE PARK.

This tract was a gift to the Rockford park district. The donor was Mrs. Harriet P. Gilbert, of Fort Wayne, Ind. This valuable property consisting of three and one-half acres, is bounded by Montague, West and Knowlton streets. It was given the name of Mandeville in honor of the parents of the donor, Michael and Elsey Mandeville. Under date of October 24, 1911, the park board addressed a letter to Mrs. Gilbert, pledging that a fountain and bronze memorial tablet should be placed in the park to perpetuate the memory of these early settlers.

Mandeville park has the largest elm tree in Rockford, and several hundred people can be gathered under the shade of its branches. The Mandeville house, one of the oldest in the city, has lately been reconstructed, and is used by the Nature Study club.

SOUTHEAST PARK.

In the spring of 1911 the park board acquired by purchase all of block 28 in Budlong's subdivision, consisting of three acres. This small tract has been provided with a ball diamond, a one-sixth mile running track, and two tennis courts. The problem of shade has also been considered and a row of elm and linden trees has been planted on each side of the walk around the entire block. The land cost \$6,002.

SMALLER ACQUISITIONS.

John Spafford triangle, directly north of the First Congregational church, has been turned over to the park board by the trustees of the church for park purposes.

Franklin place, in the center of a street of the same name, is the prettiest small park, with the single exception of Vogt. Previous to coming under the control of the board, Franklin place had been maintained by residents in the vicinity. Mrs. George D. Roper provided for the lighting of the park by setting up four boulevard lights, and the expense of the lighting is also paid for by private property owners.

Northwestern park has passed into the control of the park board, under a ten-year lease secured from the officials of the road. This tract was vacated by the company when its east side depot was removed to Seventh street.

Boilvin is a third triangle on Auburn street. It derives its name from Nicholas Boilvin, to whom reference was made in a preceding paragraph, as the purchaser of a section of land from Catherine Myott.

Lovelace point is a small triangle at the junction of North Second and East streets.

Longwood point is at the intersection of Longwood and Greenmount streets.

Beattie park was presented to the Rockford district in 1915 by Mary and Anna Beattie. It is situated between East and Longwood streets and contains three and three-quarters acres. The parks are so scattered that no section of



James W. McCartney

the city is favored at the expense of another. By way of a recapitulation it may be said the Rockford district now comprises twenty-five parks, squares and triangles, with a total area of 255.37 acres.

COST OF PARK SYSTEM.

As noted in a preceding paragraph, the first bond issue, in 1910, was for \$100,000. The following year another bond issue of \$100,000 was authorized, which bears four per cent interest. The tax levy for 1909 was \$35,999.59; for 1910, \$57,312.21; for 1911, \$41,414.02; for 1912, \$55,000; 1914, \$50,960; 1915, \$64,500. The maximum tax is four mills on the dollar of assessed valuation. On this basis the park board can levy a tax of about \$80,000.

OFFICERS OF PARK DISTRICT.

The statute provides that one commissioner shall be elected annually at the April township election. In April, 1910, Napoleon Levasseur was elected to succeed Fred E. Carpenter. George D. Roper's term expired in 1911, and he was succeeded by Dr. O. Alfred Olson. H. W. Williams' term expired in 1912 and he was re-elected. Levin Faust, who drew the four-year term, was re-elected in April, 1913. R. H. Tinker was re-elected in 1914; Frank L. Cleveland was elected in 1915, and Frank S. Horner in 1916. The officers are: Levin Faust, president; Frank J. O'Brien, secretary; W. E. Burwell, treasurer; Robert Rew, attorney; Paul B. Riis, superintendent. L. W. Thompson served as playgrounds director, for several years, from May to November of each year. A park district is a municipality in itself, and its commissioners are vested with large powers. The board is a taxing body, buys and condemns land for park purposes and makes all rules for the regulation of these resorts.

CHAPTER XXXI.

ROCKFORD IN BASEBALL.

FIRST TRAINING GAINED AT ROCKFORD—FOREST CITY BASEBALL CLUB—SPALDING AND ANSON MEMBERS—SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF ALBERT G. SPALDING, WILLIAM T. BROWN—MUCH AMATEUR TALENT—FIRST MINOR LEAGUE ORGANIZED—PARK PROVIDED—ROCKFORD A MEMBER OF THE I-I-I LEAGUE.

CRADLE OF BASEBALL.

Rockford has been called in baseball history, "the cradle of the national game in the West." The pastime had its inception here in Civil war days. Young men of the city formed a cricket club for games two or three times a week. John Lewis, an insurance man from Cincinnati, O., who joined the cricket club, suggested that they play baseball instead of cricket. He obtained a book of rules from Cincinnati, the diamond was laid out on the cricket field and the game entered upon. The ball, which Henry N. Starr and his brother, Chandler Starr, volunteered to make, had for its core part of a rubber shoe, around which was wound yarn. An orange peel was quartered and utilized for the model for a leather cover. The cover was sewed by George Lane, a pioneer harness-maker, and thus was manufactured Rockford's first ball. The cricket grounds being too small, the baseball team, which was calling itself the Forest Citys, moved to another lot. Other teams were formed, including the Mercantiles, Sinitissippis, Pioneers and Unions, some of which were senior and some junior teams. Albert G. Spalding, destined to become a millionaire sporting goods dealer and the greatest pitcher of his day, played on the Pioneers, as did Ross Barnes, later a famous infielder.

FOREST CITY BASEBALL CLUB.

The Forest City baseball club, composed of business men whose object was to promote and enjoy the new game, was organized August 10, 1865, with 150 members. The Forest City club at the time Barnes and Spalding were admitted to membership, consisted of Dr. S. J. Sawyer, pitcher; A. Barker, catcher; H. S. Warner, shortstop; G. E. King, first base; T. T. Webster, second base; S. Lakin, third base; W. Stearns, left field; M. L. Wheeler, center field; J. Brown, right field, and J. H. Manny, scorer. The executive officers of the club were H. H. Waldo, president; I. S. Hyatt, vice-president; George

CRADLE OF BASEBALL—GAME SUCCEEDED CRICKET—
COMPOSITION OF FIRST BALL—FAMOUS NAMES—

E. King, secretary; George P. Ross, treasurer. The directors were E. C. Dunn, H. N. Starr and C. G. Maulove.

In the games following the reorganization of the Forest City club, the line-up was changed and the following players appeared: Spalding, pitcher; King, catcher; Cone, first base; Addy, second base; Stearns, Lighthart or Stires, third base; Barnes, shortstop; Wheeler or Warner, right field; Cheney or Osborne, center field; Barker or Waxham, left field. The Forest City team late in the season of that year played three games, losing two and winning one. In 1867 the Forest City team, which had entered upon a public career a year earlier, leaped into national fame by defeating the famous and supposedly unbeatable Nationals of Washington, the score being 29 to 23. Spalding pitched the game and immediately offers poured in on him from Washington, Cleveland, New York and other cities.

The year 1868 saw the Forest City nine's fame spread. For a number of years it ranked among the best in the nation. Adrian C. Anson, for many years a leading first baseman and manager of pennant winners in the National league, played his first professional ball with the Forest City club. The Forest City team continued its winning career into the early 70's. Many other Rockford teams since then have borne that name, but none ever achieved the fame that the parent nine did. Spalding, Addy, Barnes and Cone went from Rockford to the Boston Red Stocking club, which Spalding pitched to victory in the pennant races of the National Association during 1872-73-74-75.

Albert Goodwill Spalding was born at Byron, Ogle County, Ill., September 2, 1850. He came to Rockford in 1863, where he attended the local schools and a commercial college. He was working in a retail grocery store at \$5 a week when, pitching for the Forest City club, he contributed to the defeat of the renowned Nationals of Washington. From Boston's Red Stockings he went to the Chicago club where, as pitcher-captain, he won the pennant of the newly organized National League of professional baseball clubs in 1876. He then abandoned the playing end of the game for business, founding the great sporting goods house of A. G. Spalding and Bros, Chicago. He died at his home at Point Loma, Cal., September 9, 1915. William Thayer Brown, treasurer of the

Spalding Company and son of Mrs. Horace Brown, of Rockford, died suddenly in Chicago, May 7, 1916.

Following the disbandment of the Forest City club of 1871, which was that year a member of the National Association, which preceded the National League, and finished seventh in the field of eight clubs, Rockford was represented for six years by teams of strictly home talent, which won a majority of their games against amateur nines of the neighboring towns and of Chicago. Players wearing the Rockford colors in those years included: Patrick W. Welch, Thomas W. Griffin, Arthur Fox, William Conners, Charles Conners, B. Frank Barnes, George F. Wilson, Chase Sargent, "Dud" Redfield, Edward F. W. Ellis, Will Dunshee, John McDonough, James A. Toole, Patrick O'Brien, James B. Lane, Charles Will and others. The Bluff Citys, of Elgin, defeated the Forest Citys of 1877, in August, 6 to 3, with Charles A. Comiskey as pitcher, and Rudolph Kemler as catcher.

In 1878 a professional battery, Fred Waterman, pitcher, and Charles Dwight, catcher, was secured and the team put on a semi-pro. basis. The other positions were filled at various times by Hugh Nicol, John Whiteside, Thomas W. Griffin, Charles Stocking, Henry Smith, John McDonough, James Griffin, James Toole, Henry Irvine, Patrick W. Welch and Ed Flannery. This team won nearly all its games.

FIRST MINOR LEAGUE ORGANIZED.

Rockford joined with Dubuque, Davenport and Omaha in 1879, in forming the first minor league ever organized. James F. McKee, of Rockford, was president, and T. P. Sullivan, of Dubuque, secretary. The Rockford team, which finished second to Dubuque, comprised: John C. Rowe, David E. Rowe, M. H. Golden, Hugh Nicol, Mike Dorsey, Coons, Creamer, Goodman, and T. W. Griffin.

Interest in the national game during the years 1880-81 was kept alive by strictly amateur teams, under the management of Frank Lander, and enlisted the services of Carroll J. Roberts, T. W. Griffin, Ed Flannery, William Nelson, Charles Brown, G. F. Wilson, Frank McArthur, M. H. Golden, James Lane, William Murphy, John Whiteside, Arthur O'Brien, William Coy and Forsythe. In 1882-83 the semi-pro. teams

put in the field by Frank Lander included: Tony Luck, M. H. Golden, T. W. Griffin, C. J. Roberts, J. C. Griffin, S. A. D. Behel, John Whiteside, Jerry Connors, Girdon Whitely, James Toole, Arthur O'Brien, James C. Golden, William Murphy, William Nelson, Ed Flannery, Henry Bartholomew and Larry Doyle. The years 1884-85 were uneventful in Rockford baseball history. In 1886 she cut a wide swath in semi-pro. fields with a team under the management of Frank Lander. The nine included Varney Anderson, pitcher; Henry F. Hines, catcher; and the other positions filled by Alvin Watts, George O'Brien, Edward Bidinger, Frank Bidinger, William Merrick, William Butler, Edward Bradley, Luke Degnan, Frank Snyder, Chris. Beck, William Murphy, Thomas F. Walsh, Hugh J. Gallagher, James Kelley and Den Pendergast.

BASEBALL PARK PROVIDED.

All the games up to 1887 had been played on the fairground. In that year a stock company was organized, with Oscar P. Trahern as president and W. Henry Allen as secretary. A fine park was provided in the square bounded by North Church, Napoleon, North Main and Johns streets. The team, which was independent professional, with Frank C. Lander as manager, won thirty-four out of forty-nine games. The players were H. F. Hines, P. Hines, Al Watts, George O'Brien, Carroll J. Roberts, Ed Stapleton, Mortimer McQuaid, George Treadway, William Alloway, John Bates, Joe Sutherland, "Bluke" Rosenthal, S. A. D. Behel, James Turner, T. W. Griffin, McCormick and Duane.

Rockford had a franchise in the Central-Inter-State league in 1888, but it only lived six weeks. W. H. Allen was team manager, and the players were: B. F. Snyder, Bowman, Bates, Lowe, Stapleton, Joe Cantillon, O'Brien, James Cantillon, Truby, William Murphy, Behel, Sayer and Hendricks. Starting July 4, Frank Lander maintained an independent professional team for the remainder of the season, which enlisted the services of B. F. Snyder, William Noll, J. D. Lookabaugh, Bert Dunbar, S. A. D. Behel, Henry O'Rourke, H. F. Hines, George O'Brien, P. Hines, Joe Cantillon, William Murphy, T. F. Walsh and H. J. Gallagher. They played at the same park as in the preceding year.

Rockford did not have professional baseball again until 1891, when a franchise was secured in the Illinois-Iowa league. A stock company was formed, capitalized at \$5,000. A fine park was secured in the West end, and Hugh Nicol was team manager. Rockford's associates in the I-I league, as it was called, were Davenport, Ottumwa, Quincy, Ottawa, Joliet, Cedar Rapids and Aurora. The city continued in the same league in 1892 with Peoria, Joliet, Evansville, Jacksonville, Quincy, Rock Island-Moline and Terre Haute. The years 1893, 1894 and 1895 saw no league ball in Rockford. In 1895 Rockford entered the Western Association. The other clubs in that circuit at the opening of the season were Des Moines, Quincy, Omaha, Peoria, Lincoln, Jacksonville and St. Joseph. The same league opened in 1896 with Rockford, Peoria, Cedar Rapids, Dubuque, Quincy, St. Joseph, Des Moines and Burlington. In 1897 the league members were Des Moines, Dubuque, Burlington, Cedar Rapids, St. Joseph, Peoria, Quincy and Rockford.

Rockford was out of baseball in 1898, but in 1899 joined with Bloomington, Cedar Rapids, Rock Island, Quincy and Ottumwa in the Western Association. It was a short-lived season and the city was out of the game in 1900. The year 1901 brought the organization of the Illinois-Indiana-Iowa League with the following members: Rockford, Terre Haute, Bloomington, Rock Island, Decatur, Evansville, Cedar Rapids, Davenport. In 1902 the members were Rockford, Rock Island, Terre Haute, Cedar Rapids, Bloomington, Decatur, Evansville and Davenport. In 1903 the same league started with Rockford, Cedar Rapids, Bloomington, Decatur, Rock Island, Davenport, Joliet and Dubuque. In 1904 franchises were taken by Rockford, Dubuque, Davenport, Rock Island, Decatur, Bloomington, Cedar Rapids and Springfield. Rockford contented itself with amateur and semi-pro baseball in 1905, 1906 and 1907. In 1908 the city placed a team in the Wisconsin-Illinois League, in which it was represented every season thereafter until 1915, when it returned to the I-I-I league, succeeding Springfield.

ROCKFORD WINS PENNANTS.

Rockford won the I-I-I pennant in 1902 and the Wisconsin-Illinois League pennant in 1910.

In the list of its managers appear the names of Hugh Nicol, Varney Anderson, Henry Hines, George Bubser, Charles Golden, Frank Richards, Clarence Marshall, Clifford Dulin, Orville Wolf and Howard Wakefield. Four Rockford men have been minor league presidents. They were James F. McKee, Joshua S. Hulse, J. Stanley Browne and Frank S. Edmison.

CHAPTER XXXII.

PUBLIC CHARITIES—INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES.

ROCKFORD HOSPITAL—OFFICIALS—HOSPITAL SUNDAY ESTABLISHED—MANY GENEROUS DONATIONS—TALCOTT MEMORIAL HOME FOR NURSES—EMERSON HALL HOSPITAL ADDITION—TRAINING SCHOOL MAINTAINED—HOSPITAL COMPLETELY EQUIPPED—ST. ANTHONY HOSPITAL—MUNICIPAL SANITARIUM—A GREAT ENTERPRISE—SWEDISH-AMERICAN HOSPITAL—WINNEBAGO COUNTY HOME FOR THE AGED—JENNIE SNOW HOME FOR AGED WOMEN—Y. W. C. ASSOCIATION—Y. M. C. A.—BOYS' CLUB—WINNEBAGO FARM SCHOOL—WORKING GIRLS' HOME—THE CHILDREN'S HOME—WINNEBAGO COUNTY ALMSHOUSE—LADIES' UNION AID SOCIETY—VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION—PUBLIC WELFARE ASSOCIATION—SWEDISH UNION AID SOCIETY—HUMANE SOCIETY—WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATIONS—CENTRAL WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION—NON-PARTISAN WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE ALLIANCE—TEMPERANCE GUARDS—NORTH ROCKFORD W. C. T. U.—SWEDISH W. C. T. U.—UNIONS MAINTAINED ALSO IN SOUTH AND WEST ROCKFORD.

ROCKFORD HOSPITAL.

During the year 1883 the immediate founding of a hospital for the city of Rockford became an object of much interest, both to the medical profession and to the community at large. Among the physicians especially interested in

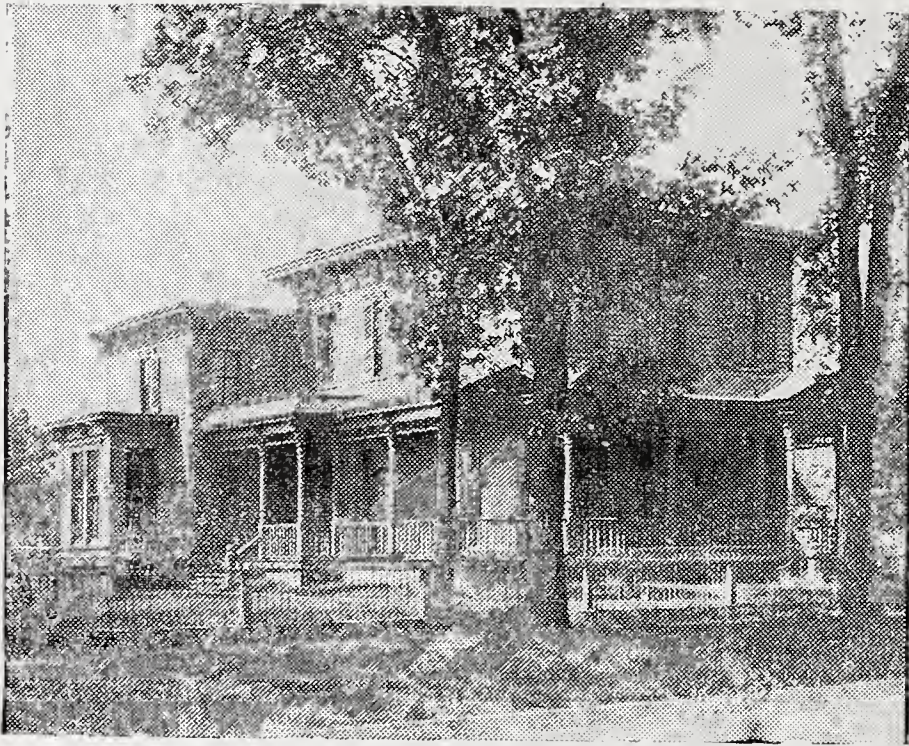
the movement were the late T. G. Vincent, W. H. Fitch and F. H. Kimball. The subject elicited much attention at the meetings of the medical society of the county, and in the autumn of 1883 resulted in the appointment of a committee to secure a corporate existence under the laws of the state. The committee received from the secretary of state a certificate of organization, under date of December 15, 1883. The incorporators were Drs. A. E. Goodwin, Silas A. Austin, Frank H. Kimball, Frank K. Hill, Lemuel Tibbets, Thomas G. Vincent.

It was the desire of the promoters to secure the co-operation of the churches, and the selection of trustees was made with this end in view. The original board consisted of the following citizens: William A. Talcott, William Lathrop, Norman C. Thompson, William Brown, Jeremiah Davis, H. W. Carpenter, John Z. Rydberg, Thour Munthe, R. P. Lane, B. F. Whipple, Thos. Butterworth, Frances I. Price, Mary H. Penfield, Jane G. Wilkins, Adeline E. Emerson. Upon the completion of the organization, the physicians, by choice, were no longer officially identified with the Hospital association. At a meeting held January 29, 1884, a temporary organization was effected by the election of William Brown as chairman, and William A. Talcott secretary of the board of trustees. At a meeting held April 8, 1884, a constitution and by-laws were adopted. A permanent organization was effected by the election of the following officers: President, William Brown; vice president, Mrs. Jane G. Wilkins; secretary and treasurer, William A. Talcott. Shares were placed at \$10 each, and were taken by a large number of the citizens. Selden M. Church took 30 shares; Dr. Fitch, 30 shares; Dr. R. P. Lane, 50 shares; Emerson, Talcott & Co., 50 shares; Thos. D. Robertson, 50 shares; Horatio Stone, 50 shares.

On June 21, 1884, the trustees accepted the proposition of Dr. W. H. Fitch for the purchase of his property, a plat of about 125 feet frontage on South Court street, by 156 feet with a south and east exposure, for \$6,800; \$300 payable in certificates of membership. The deed was executed July 1, 1885, at which time the association received possession. The hospital was opened October 1, 1885. Drs. S. A. Austin and F. H. Kimball were the first attending physician and surgeon, respectively. Drs. R. P. Lane and D. S. Clark were the first consulting physicians, and



ROCKFORD HOSPITAL.



WINNEBAGO COUNTY HOME FOR THE AGED,
ROCKFORD



ST. ANTHONY HOSPITAL, ROCKFORD

Drs. W. H. Fitch and Henry Richings the first consulting surgeons. The first patient was received October 10.

Mrs. Martha J. Smith, more familiarly known as "Aunt Jane," was the first matron. She assumed this responsibility October 1, 1885, and faithfully administered its duties nearly fifteen years, until April, 1900. Miss Lizzie C. Glenn was appointed superintendent March 28, 1900. She resigned April 6, 1901, and Miss Flora B. Patch was appointed. Miss Patch resigned November 1, 1902, and Miss Alma M. Barter received the appointment. She was succeeded by Miss Elizabeth K. Smith, and she in turn by Mrs. E. M. McWhorter. The present superintendent, Miss Elizabeth J. Wright, was appointed in December, 1911.

Hospital Sunday in the churches was established October 10, 1885, by the trustees, and was generally observed throughout the city for many years. In 1888 steps were taken to provide a permanent fund for the maintenance of the hospital. In 1887 a new hospital building was erected, fronting on Chestnut street. In 1901 Mrs. Adeline E. Emerson, in memory of her deceased son, Ralph Emerson, Jr., contributed the funds for an addition to the hospital for an operating room and office. In 1904 a splendid addition was erected on the site of the first hospital building, at a cost of about \$50,000.

William Brown served as president from 1884 to 1886, William Lathrop from 1886 to 1887, Horatio Stone from 1887 to January 29, 1896, when his death occurred. William Lathrop was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Stone, which office he held many years. His son, E. P. Lathrop, is now president. W. A. Talcott served as secretary and treasurer of the hospital from its inception to the time of his death, which occurred in Palestine, December 19, 1900. The early success of the institution was in large measure due to his liberality and untiring effort. His son, Wait Talcott, was elected to the position so ably filled by his father, April 6, 1901. Chandler Starr is the present treasurer, and A. S. Ruhl is secretary.

Among the large gifts in the earlier years was \$27,000 from the estate of Horatio Stone, \$12,000 from W. A. Talcott and family, \$10,500 from A. D. Forbes and family. Other contributions varied from \$2,400 to \$5,000.

In 1910 Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Emerson erected a Nurses' Home at the corner of Chestnut and

South Winnebago streets. This is known as the Talcott Memorial Home for Nurses, and is a memorial for Mrs. Emerson's father, Hon. Wait Talcott. In 1912 the home was enlarged by an addition on the east, the expense of which was borne by Mr. and Mrs. Emerson.

In April, 1913, Mr. and Mrs. Emerson made a gift of \$60,000 for an addition to the Rockford Hospital. The offer was addressed to the trustees in the following letter: "We desire to make possible the enlargement in the near future of Rockford Hospital. The addition to provide modern kitchens and dining rooms for nurses, a new surgical operating department and additional rooms for patients. Part of the rooms to be suitable for extreme cases requiring great quiet and every convenience. The addition to be called 'Emerson Hall,' and to cost about \$60,000, or a little over. To this end we authorize Mr. Sturm to proceed with the plans." This addition, of six stories, was completed in 1915, at a cost of more than \$100,000, all of which was borne by the Emerson family.

An important feature of the hospital is the training school for nurses. The first class was graduated in 1890, and since that time 150 nurses have received diplomas. A three years' course is required, and the standard is equal to the best in the state.

The equipment of Rockford Hospital, including a new X-ray apparatus, is unsurpassed by any of the great hospitals in Chicago. The hospital will accommodate eighty-eight patients. The expense of maintaining the hospital in 1915 was \$54,472.49, during which time 1,953 patients were received.

ST. ANTHONY HOSPITAL.

St. Anthony Hospital was founded in 1899, and its growth has not been surpassed by any other public institution in the city. The initiative was taken by a number of physicians, who were anxious for a hospital in East Rockford. Early in its history the late William Crotty became interested in the project, and gave of his time and money to provide a site.

The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis, whose headquarters are in Peoria, were invited to visit Rockford to consider a location. They came to the city and selected the home of the late Leonard Schmauss, on East State street. The house was erected in 1856 by the late

Seely Perry, and was known as "Perry's castle." The property was purchased for \$12,000, one-half of which was furnished by the Sisters. The sum of \$3,000 was the personal contribution of physicians who were members of the staff, and the remaining \$3,000 was given by friends in Rockford and Winnebago county. The title to the property is vested in the Sisters. The hospital was opened for the reception of patients in August, 1899. The patronage given was so liberal that within two years accommodations could not be afforded all the patients seeking admission. To provide for this an addition was erected at the cost of \$60,000. The cornerstone was laid May 22, 1902, and in March, 1903, the new building was formally opened. This improvement enabled the hospital to accommodate sixty patients.

In 1914 a second addition was erected, which contains a chapel. St. Anthony will now accommodate 125 patients. It occupies a commanding site on high ground in one of the finest residence portions of the city. The purity of the air, the quietude of the surroundings, the appointments and the faithful ministrations of the Sisters make St. Anthony an ideal hospital.

ROCKFORD MUNICIPAL SANITARIUM.

A number of cities in Illinois have voted to build sanitariums for the care of tuberculosis sufferers under the so-called Glackin Tuberculosis Act. Rockford is the first of these cities outside of Chicago to complete such a building and open its doors to the public. Following agitation by public-spirited citizens and civic organizations the question was submitted to the voters in 1913, and carried by a large majority. A board of trustees, including Drs. Daniel Lichty, H. A. Pattison and W. E. Park, was appointed by Mayor W. W. Bennett. The city council and board, under authority of the state law, have the power to annually levy a tax not to exceed one mill on the dollar on all taxable property.

The Rockford Municipal Sanitarium, for the free treatment of tuberculosis patients residing in the city of Rockford, was inspected by the public on January 1 and 2, 1916, and on January 3 patients were admitted for treatment.

The buildings are located just outside the city, four blocks from the city car line, upon a fifteen acre tract of rolling land. The site includes

two magnificent groves of hickory and oak trees on the south and east slopes. Drainage facilities are almost perfect, allowing no opportunity for the accumulation of storm water. The buildings crown the highest hill of the tract and are protected on the north by dense forests on the hilltops one-half mile away; on the west by a stately forest of oaks, and on the southwest by the pleasing hills of the Siniissippi Golf Grounds. From the north and west rooms of the sanitarium may be seen a view of the northern part of the city, including Rock River. The sanitarium building is of three stories, with a basement. It is a combined infirmary and administration building with a capacity for twenty-two patients. From year to year its capacity will be increased by the addition of open air cottages. The building is semi-fireproof. A private water system, furnishing a supply of artesian water from a well 450 feet deep, and a sewage disposal plant, are features of the sanitarium. The total cost of the grounds and buildings to date is: Grounds—land, \$6,765; improvements, \$1,274.78; total, \$8,039.78. Building, \$17,609.72; equipment of building, \$3,355.50; total, \$20,965.22. Pumping plant, \$3,924.63. Total cost of properties, \$32,929.63. The trustees have selected Mrs. Bertha Logan, of Chicago, as superintendent, and Dr. J. S. Lundholm, of Rockford, medical director.

SWEDISH-AMERICAN HOSPITAL.

An organization has been perfected for building a Swedish-American hospital. A site has been secured, on Charles street, valued at \$12,000, and the association has collected \$80,000 in cash and pledges. There are nine members on the board of trustees: Victor M. Johnson, Gust Anderson, A. E. Freburg, W. A. Peterson, W. A. Brolin, Alfred Turnstrom, Nels Swenson, Rev. J. W. Johnson, and Rev. August Erikson. Contracts for the excavation and foundation were made several months ago. The plan calls for a building of seventy-five rooms, and the total expense will be about \$100,000.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY HOME FOR THE AGED.

This institution had its inception in a meeting held at the Nelson House, July 7, 1904. A temporary organization was effected, with Rev. R. C. Bryant as chairman, and Kate F. O'Con-

nor, secretary. An adjourned meeting was held July 14, when a constitution and by-laws were adopted. July 21 a board of managers was chosen, and the organization may be said to date from this time. The following officers were elected: H. Helena Weyburn, president; Mrs. Fannie B. Waldo, vice-president; Kate F. O'Connor, secretary; Robert C. Lind, treasurer. The original funds came from private subscriptions.

The Crawford homestead, 408 Horsman street, was leased at a rental of \$25 per month, and the home was formally opened October 2, 1904. Mrs. Maria G. Hobart was chosen matron, and served two years. She died in June, 1907. Through the efforts of Mrs. Chandler Starr and M. R. Harned, of the ways and means committee, the board of supervisors made an appropriation of \$500. In July, 1905, it was decided to purchase a permanent home, and the Crawford property was secured for \$6,500.

The home can accommodate thirteen persons, and men and women over sixty-five years of age are eligible. Each inmate deposits \$300 upon entrance, and this entitles him to the privileges of the home for life. Only residents of the county are eligible. The home is always full, and has a waiting list. There have been thirty-seven inmates to date. Twenty-three have died, one married, and the full number, thirteen, are now in the home. There are twenty-seven members of the board of directors, one from each township in the county, and the others are chosen from the city. Mrs. Alice L. Shoults is president and Mrs. S. S. Brumbaugh is treasurer. Mrs. J. Frances White has been matron for six years. The home is maintained by public-spirited citizens and from the receipts of "tag day," which is observed annually throughout the county.

JENNIE SNOW HOME FOR AGED WOMEN.

This home was made possible by the late Mrs. Jennie M. Snow, who bequeathed about \$100,000 for the purchase of a home and its endowment. Chandler Starr, M. R. Harned and W. W. Bennett were made the executors of the estate, and the trustees of the home. Mr. Starr resigned after the estate was settled and Dr. Harned and Mayor Bennett have since administered the affairs of the home.

Mrs. Snow had made a thorough study of

such institutions, and formulated plans for management in detail. The W. D. Trahern homestead on Kent street was purchased, and the home was opened in June, 1907. Women over fifty years of age are eligible to admission, on payment of \$200. Twenty can be accommodated at one time. The expenses of the home have always been kept within the income, so that the endowment is now about \$140,000. Miss Carrie E. Slade has been matron since the home was opened.

YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The Young Women's Christian Association was organized May 28, 1891, in the parlors of the Second Congregational Church. Mrs. Anna Williams was elected president; Mrs. C. R. Wise, vice-president; Miss Kate Rising, recording secretary; Miss Ida Allen, treasurer. Mrs. Williams only served a short time, and was succeeded by Mrs. W. L. Eaton, and Mrs. D. S. Clark was chosen to take the place of Mrs. Wise. The first board of directors was composed of the following women: Mrs. E. M. Revell, Mrs. S. L. Kennedy, Mrs. M. S. Parmele, Mrs. S. N. Jones, Miss Mary Sherratt, Mrs. C. H. C. Burlingame, Mrs. Frank Brown, Mrs. Charles Herrick, Mrs. Oscar Hall, Mrs. M. L. Baird, Mrs. Arthur Berridge. Later presidents succeeding Mrs. Eaton have been Mrs. S. L. Kennedy, Mrs. E. L. Herrick, Mrs. Harriet Pease, Mrs. G. R. Vanhorne, Mrs. E. S. Gregory, Mrs. Julia P. Warren, Mrs. W. A. Stapleton and Mrs. H. W. Buckbee. Miss Caroline Griffith was the first general secretary. Her successors have been Miss May McGranahan; Miss Gracia Norton, who served from June, 1894, to June, 1908; Miss Anna Cellars; Miss Jessie M. Vogt; Miss Hazel P. Verry; Miss Ethel Hendee; Miss Henrietta Moehlmann; Miss Florence Hale.

The first home of the association was the residence formerly occupied by Frank G. Smith, on South Madison street. The present building was dedicated in March, 1907, and cost \$20,000. The association has been splendidly supported by the women of Rockford and is free from debt. Board and room are furnished to young women at a nominal expense, and educational classes are taught by volunteer instructors. Vesper services are held every Sunday afternoon.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

Rockford formerly supported a Young Men's Christian Association. The first one was organized in 1858 and disbanded January 6, 1862. The second association was perfected May 1, 1876. E. P. Thomas was chosen president, and rooms were secured in the old Ashton building. In 1886 Mrs. D. S. Penfield gave a site for a building at East State and Madison streets. The corner-stone was laid April 18, 1889, and the building was completed in 1890 at a cost of \$42,000. The "Y" was an active religious, athletic and educational center for years, but its maintenance became exceedingly difficult and it was finally abandoned. A. W. Beckner was the last secretary. The association still keeps up a legal existence, in order to administer the bequest of \$10,000 from Judge Benjamin R. Sheldon, the interest of which is distributed among local charities. The "Y" building is now the East Side Inn.

BOYS' CLUB.

The Rockford Boys' Club is the result of efforts of the Woman's Auxiliary of the local Young Men's Christian Association. When that organization closed its doors, the women assumed the responsibility of carrying on a work for the upbuilding of the physical, mental and spiritual welfare of the boys of Rockford. The club was incorporated April 13, 1908. Miss Jessie I. Spafford was chosen president; Mrs. L. M. Reckhow, vice-president; Mrs. Edith J. Shuttleworth, secretary; Mrs. Walter Anglemire, treasurer. Quarters were secured in the old Y. M. C. A. building. From April until September, 1908, the work was supervised solely by volunteers, with a view of securing a competent superintendent as soon as possible. F. M. Duckles was engaged and began his duties in September. When the old Y. M. C. A. building changed ownership it became necessary for the club to secure another home. The Dr. H. B. Hale homestead, at the corner of South Madison and Walnut streets, was purchased in 1910, and in September, 1911, the home was thrown open to the boys of Rockford.

The club is managed by a board of twenty-eight directors, elected annually. Mr. Duckles served as superintendent until September, 1912, and was succeeded in October by C. A. Dickin-

son, who is still serving. Miss Spafford has been president of the club from the first; Winthrop Ingersoll is vice-president; Mrs. J. V. Hawkinson, recording secretary; Miss Edith Sackett, corresponding secretary; A. W. Robertson, treasurer. The club has a membership of 205.

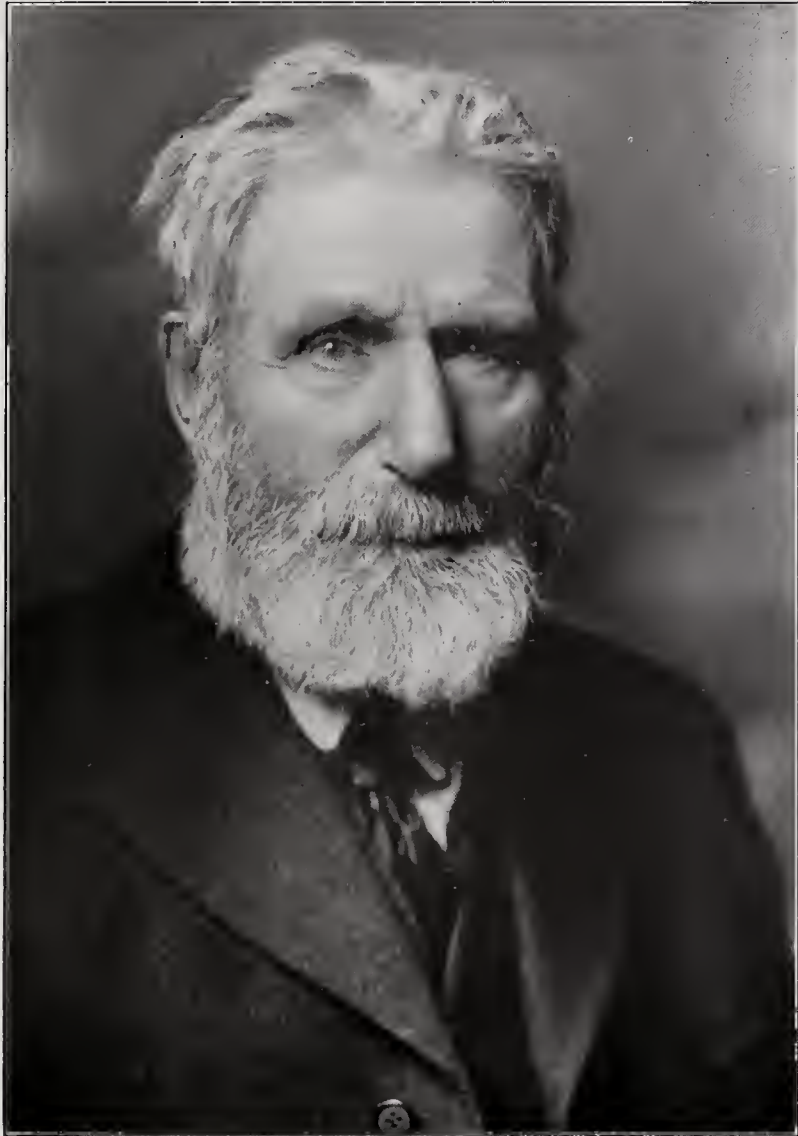
WINNEBAGO FARM SCHOOL.

The Winnebago Farm School Association was organized January 21, 1907, at a meeting of citizens, called by Mrs. Seely Perry, chairman of a joint committee of the Rockford Women's Club and The Forum. The president and directors appeared before the board of supervisors and obtained a five years' lease of the Horsfall farm belonging to the county, and funds having been secured, proceeded to render the old farm house sanitary and habitable, to erect necessary buildings, and in March, 1908, entered on their beneficent work with half a dozen boys committed to them by the judge of the juvenile court.

The association reaches out its helping hand to delinquent and dependent children, who generally are the victims of neglect or unfortunate circumstances, most of them never having been sufficiently fed, clothed or warmed, or given any training except that of the streets. It is rescuing and transforming those who, without its sheltering care and daily training, would surely tread the downward road; it is gathering in the unprotected who else would be homeless, and leading them all into ways of usefulness and uprightness. Its aim is to make good, law-abiding citizens out of the neglected "by-product" of the streets.

The association is incorporated, owns ten acres of land adjoining the Horsfall farm, and upon this has erected a fine fireproof home, capable of housing forty boys and the necessary helpers; it also has partially equipped a manual training shop, constructed a large vegetable cellar and has set out an orchard upon its own grounds. A new lease for fifteen years, dating from March, 1913, has been granted by the supervisors.

The results of seven years of endeavor, apparent in the transformed lives of those committed to its care, are most gratifying and encouraging. The officers are: President, Mrs. Seely Perry; vice-president, Charles Tritle; secretary, Herbert Hicks; treasurer, Miss Mary



D. C. McDougall

I. Beattie; executive committee, Mrs. Katharine Keeler, C. F. Henry, W. F. Barnes.

WORKING GIRLS' HOME.

The Working Girls' Home was formally dedicated February 14, 1914, by General Ballugton Booth, assisted by General Edward Fielding, of Chicago, officers of the Volunteers of America. The building was the Blackman home, on North First street, and was purchased for \$7,000. Of this sum \$2,700 has been paid by citizens of Rockford. The furnishings have cost \$1,200, which have been contributed by women of the city. The home is now furnished to accommodate thirty young women, but when completely equipped fifty can be housed. Board and room are furnished at a cost that will make the home self-supporting. Although the institution was founded by the Volunteers of America, its affairs are supervised by a woman's auxiliary and a men's advisory board, both composed of Rockford people. Educational classes will be conducted at the home. Miss Lillian B. Austin is matron.

THE CHILDREN'S HOME.

The society for the founding and maintenance of a children's home was organized in November, 1905. The former residence of R. H. Shumway, on Sixth street, was secured for \$8,000. Only \$1,000 was paid down. Mr. Shumway subsequently cancelled the indebtedness for \$2,500, thus practically making a gift of \$4,500. Several trade unions did work gratuitously during the winter in making the home ready for use, and it was formally opened in March, 1906, with seven children. Since that time the home has cared for 163 children. Besides the main building, which will accommodate twenty-five children, there are two cottages; one is used as an infirmary, and the other is rented. A day nursery is maintained for the purpose of assisting mothers who are obliged to be away from home during the day. Five hundred meals have been served to day nursery children during the last year.

The membership fee is one dollar a year. Other sources of revenue are personal gifts, bequests and entertainments, given by various clubs.

Miss Eleanor Holland was the first president

of the home, and Mrs. Ella Dahlin was secretary. The present officers are: Mrs. H. M. Whipple, president; Mrs. Edith Robertsou Root, first vice-president; Mrs. Sarah T. Josliu, second vice-president; Mrs. Carrie Ashton Johnson, recording secretary; Mrs. John Dobson, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Fred G. Shoudy, treasurer; Mrs. E. E. Bartlett, auditor. Mrs. Frances C. Terry is the house-mother.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

The Winnebago County Almshouse is four miles from Rockford. The situation is unusually beautiful. The main building is a yellow brick two-story structure, with a basement on the ground level. The building is heated by steam and lighted by electricity. There are 147 acres of good land in the poor farm, and the land has been brought to the highest producing value. The cost of the institution for the year, March, 1914, to March 1915, exclusive of repairs, was \$8,186.75. The county pays the salary of a nurse for the hospital. George W. Smith is superintendent. Inspectors have pronounced the institution a model in all respects.

LADIES' UNION AID SOCIETY.

The Ladies' Union Aid Society came into existence in the fall of 1877. It grew out of the work of the W. C. T. U., its members finding more relief work than they could do in connection with families made dependent through intemperance. As the result of a meeting, through the efforts of Mrs. Melancthon Starr and others, the original organization was effected with Mrs. Seely Perry, president; Mrs. S. C. Withrow, first vice-president; Mrs. Henry Freeman, second vice-president; Mrs. J. A. Hepburn, secretary and treasurer; Mrs. Melancthon Starr, assistant secretary, and a ward committee for each ward. The society did efficient work until it was united with the Public Welfare Association. It still maintains a legal existence, in order to realize on some bequests that have been made. Mrs. A. C. Brearley is president.

VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION.

The Visiting Nurse Association of Rockford was organized in the autumn of 1911. Its board of directors was composed of members repre-

senting the Woman's Club and the different prominent philanthropic societies. Mrs. W. A. Forbes was chosen president; Miss Elizabeth Wright, first vice-president; Miss Margaret Linn, treasurer; Miss Evelyn Gregory, secretary. About this time the Winnebago County Anti-Tuberculosis Association was organized and in search of a nurse. The following officers were elected: Dr. W. H. Fitch, president; Rev. Thos. Finn, first vice-president; Dr. S. R. Catlin, second vice-president; Herbert S. Hicks, treasurer; Dr. M. R. Harned, secretary; Dr. H. A. Pattison, assistant secretary. Its fund was increased by the sale of Red Cross Christmas seals and memberships. At a conference of the two new organizations it was agreed that one nurse might be sufficient to do the work of both, and in this way lessen expense to each and prevent overlapping. In January of 1912 Miss Violet M. Jensen, R. N., began her duties as visiting nurse. The field of work included the care of the sick in their own homes, infant welfare, including mothers' conferences, tuberculosis work, and Metropolitan Life Insurance industrial nursing. Later in this year a second regular nurse was added, and later a third for special work in the summer. In April, 1914, Rockford Hospital Training School supplied a pupil nurse, who receives one month's training on the visiting nurse service on part time.

PUBLIC WELFARE ASSOCIATION.

The rapid growth of Rockford, with its cosmopolitan population, made organized charity a necessity. In the autumn of 1911 Francis H. McLean, of New York City, secretary of the National Association of Societies for Organizing Charities, was brought to Rockford, and made a report of the local situation December 2, 1911. He recommended the formation of a league for social service. The time did not seem ripe for action and nothing definite resulted until two years later, when the Rockford Chamber of Commerce appointed a committee, of which L. H. Clark was chairman, to sound local sentiment and receive suggestions from other communities. On February 28, 1914, this committee submitted a plan for the association of charitable and philanthropic societies. Only two organizations, the Ladies' Union Aid Society and the Visiting Nurse Association, became amalgamated in the new organization, which took the name of the Public Welfare Association. However, the board

of directors was representative of practically all the social agencies of the community and the idea of the promoters was that closer co-operation would be secured even if there were not an amalgamation of more agencies.

On October 1, 1914, the Ladies' Union Aid Society and the Visiting Nurse Association gave up their independent existence and became a part of the new organization. On December 7, Virgil V. Johnson, who had been a resident of Union Settlement in New York City and had worked there under the auspices of the Charity Organization Society, began his duties as general secretary. The central office of the association was opened December 29, 1914, in the Electric building. Since that date the Welfare Association has been organizing the work; establishing a confidential exchange in which the names of about 700 families have been recorded; and has investigated over 400 families, a majority of whom have been given material relief. In this same year the Visiting Nurse Department made about 7,000 calls upon 670 patients. The purpose of the Public Welfare Association is to unify the relief work of Rockford in order to prevent imposture and duplication of relief. It is further working with a large group of volunteer workers of whom the ward committees of the Ladies' Union Aid Society formed the nucleus, to the end that the association may be kept in friendly touch with a large number of needy families. The ultimate aim of the Welfare Association is family rehabilitation. Families are studied and material relief is given as an incident in a well thought out plan which means the ultimate self-support of needy families. The Welfare Association is in close affiliation with similar organizations in other cities so that it is in a position to obtain information regarding families in Rockford who have had previous residence in other communities.

The first president of the Public Welfare Association is Mrs. A. C. Brearley, who had been for many years the president of the Ladies' Union Aid Society. The visiting nurse work has been continued under the supervision of Miss Violet Jensen, supervising nurse of the Visiting Nurse Association, since its organization in 1911.

SWEDISH UNION AID SOCIETY.

The Swedish Union Aid Society has about forty members, and holds monthly meetings throughout the year. The organization is the

outgrowth of the Swedish Hospital Aid Society. All its receipts are devoted to philanthropy, as there are no rentals or salaries to be paid. Generous donations are received from manufacturers, singing societies and individuals. Benefactions have been extended almost entirely to widows and children. Mrs. Wilhelmina Engstrom has been president twenty-one years; Mrs. William Johnson, secretary; Mrs. Al Abramson, treasurer.

HUMANE SOCIETY.

Winnebago County maintains a branch of the Illinois Humane Society. Fay Lewis was a leading spirit in its organization and he has always had its work at heart. Mrs. Nellie T. Rew is secretary.

WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

The women of Rockford maintain six temperance organizations; a seventh, in the southeast end, has been discontinued. These women held aloft the standard of temperance when it was an unpopular cause, and many of them have seen their distinctive principle thoroughly entrenched in law. Rockford owes its women a debt of gratitude which it will recognize more in time to come.

The Central Women's Christian Temperance Union was organized March 27, 1874, with Mrs. Gilbert Woodruff as president. It was the outgrowth of the "crusade," which started at Hillsboro, and had for its object the abolition of the saloon. The union owns its own building on West State street, where temperance literature is on file. Some of the most prominent women of the city have served as president. Mrs. S. B. Wilkins has served at intervals which aggregate fifteen years. Mrs. W. A. Storey is now president. The membership is eighty.

The Non-Partisan Women's Christian Temperance Alliance dates from 1891. It has maintained the "Temperance Guards," an organization of boys pledged to temperance. Miss Katherine Foote has been superintendent of boys' work from the first.

The North Rockford W. C. T. U. was organized in 1892, and now has a membership of seventy. The union owns a building worth \$15,000, and it served as a social center when that portion of the city was sparsely settled. The late

L. H. Bailey loaned the women several thousand dollars without security, and just before his death he said it was the best investment he ever made. Mrs. Angus McFarlane has served as president many years, and she has been an efficient leader in securing a home.

The Swedish W. C. T. U. was organized in March, 1911, and now has seventy-two members. Mrs. Oscar Hall is president and Mrs. Conrad Erickson is recording secretary. The union extensively circulates literature of a religious and reformatory nature.

Unions are also maintained by the women of South Rockford and the West End.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

ROCKFORD AS A MUSICAL CENTER.

ROCKFORD SPONTANEOUSLY MUSICAL — ROCKFORD MUSICAL ASSOCIATION—SERIES OF FESTIVALS—HARMONIC SOCIETY ORGANIZED — LOUIS M. GOTTSCHALK — THE CHORAL UNION — THE MENDELSSOHN CLUB — ORGANIZES IN 1884—LARGE MEMBERSHIP — PRESENT OFFICERS — MRS. CHANDLER STARR—GREAT ARTISTS VISIT ROCKFORD—SCHUMANN CLUB—ROCKFORD CELEBRITIES—BANDS AND ORCHESTRAS—FOREST CITY BAND ORGANIZED IN 1867—ROCKFORD MILITARY BAND — DEDRICKSON'S ORCHESTRA — HADDORFF PIANO COMPANY BAND—BARBER-COLEMAN COMPANY BAND—ROCKFORD HIGH SCHOOL BAND—EMERSON-BRANTINGHAM COMPANY BAND—BENEDICT ORCHESTRA—METROPOLE ORCHESTRA—OPERA HOUSE ORCHESTRA—WEBER QUARTET—LATER SINGING SOCIETIES—SVEAS SONER—LYRAN CLUB—AMERICAN UNION OF SWEDISH SINGERS—GESANG VEREIN—MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF ROCKFORD COLLEGE — CHURCHES ARE PATRONS OF MUSIC.

ROCKFORD SPONTANEOUSLY MUSICAL.

"Rockford is spontaneously musical, affectedly literary, but it has the good sense not to pretend to be scientific." Thus wrote the late Prof. M. S. Bebb, nearly twenty-five years ago, to the

writer of this volume, in response to a request made by the latter for a newspaper article on a subject on which he was an eminent authority. There may be a chance for an argument on Prof. Bebb's first two propositions, but it will be generally agreed that Rockford is "spontaneously musical." The musical life of Rockford is so interwoven with its history, even from the earliest days, that one would be incomplete without the other.

There were first the days of the "singing school." One of the old-time singing masters was David Merrill, who wielded the tuning-fork here in 1841. He was a schoolmate of Mary Lyon, the founder of Mt. Holyoke College. He died a few years ago in Cherry Valley, Ill., after rounding out nearly a century of life. The "Rockford Musical Association" catered to the music-loving public in 1857. In 1858 there came to Rockford from the East, a young man who soon became a leader in its musical life. His name was Daniel N. Hood. For thirty-seven years he was actively identified with its musical interests. He was insistent upon real musicianly achievement, was impatient of inferior work, and Rockford owes much to his resourceful leadership during its formative period.

A series of musical festivals was given in the early '60s and '70s; first under the direction of Prof. J. F. Fargo, and later under Prof. D. N. Hood. In 1858 Prof. Hood assumed charge of the conservatory of music at Rockford College, then known as Rockford Female Seminary, and was identified with the institution thirty-seven years. A part of this time he taught both vocal and instrumental music. Sixteen years of that period he was organist of the Second Presbyterian Church of Chicago. Prof. Hood left Rockford twenty years ago, and for some years was organist of a Congregational church at Woburn, Mass., the largest church in New England outside of Boston. He has retired from active life. L. B. Starkweather came to Rockford in 1863, and organized the Harmonic Society. He was the first vocal teacher in the city who specially prepared for his profession, and for many years he taught both voice and piano. He was the first organist to play the organ now in the First Congregational Church, which was given by Rufus Hatch and dedicated by Dudley Buck. Mr. Starkweather also conducted musical festivals in Rockford and other cities. He is still a resident of Rockford.

LOUIS M. GOTTSCHALK.

Louis M. Gottschalk, the first American-born pianist to win renown, and the author of "The Last Hope," delighted a Rockford audience in Metropolitan hall December 30, 1863. The admission fee was the modest sum of fifty cents.

THE CHORAL UNION.

The Rockford Choral Union was organized January 8, 1885. Prof. L. A. Torrens, of Chicago, was engaged as musical director and the union received the loyal support of Rockford musicians for some years. June 11 and 12, 1885, the Choral Union presented Haydn's oratorio, "The Creation," at the opera house. The membership at that time was 200 and nearly the entire number sang in the chorus. On January 12, 1886, the union presented Handel's "Messiah" in the First Lutheran Church. By means of improvised seats more than 2,500 people heard this sublime composition. This was the largest number that had ever assembled in one building in Rockford up to that time. Other notable concerts given by the Choral Union were the Historical Choral concert, given in the First Lutheran Church, and three performances of Haydn's "Seasons," with Bach's orchestra of Milwaukee. The last-named performances were the first events ever held in Court Street Church. The Choral Union was formally disbanded October 9, 1888.

Prof. Torrens returned to Rockford in 1899, and organized a choral society which provided a number of notable musical events. Among these were two annual festivals which brought to the city such artists as Herbert Witherspoon, Mme. Charlotte Macouda, Genevieve Clark Wilson, Jeannette Durno-Collins, Gleuu Hall, Herbert Butler, Theodore Spiering, George Hamlin and Dan T. Beddoe. The concerts were given in Harlem Park.

THE MENDELSSOHN CLUB.

The musical life of Rockford finds its highest expression in the Mendelssohn Club. For more than thirty years it has performed inestimable service in cultivating a taste for the best in music. The club was organized in October, 1884, when a score of women met at the home of Mrs. Chandler Starr for a semi-social and



Clark Mellon

musical afternoon. The object was declared to be "the permanent establishment of an organization for the musical culture of the members and the uplifting of the standard of music in the city of Rockford." Mendelssohn was chosen the patron saint. During the winter meetings were held in private homes, but the rapid growth made a public hall a necessity. Various quarters were secured from time to time. In 1898 the club leased the hall in a building erected on West State street by George E. Briggs. In 1909 Mrs. Thomas Chick erected a block on North Main street, the upper portion of which affords a convenient and accessible home for the club.

Membership in the Mendelssohn Club is of five kinds: Active, passive, associate, honorary and student. The number of active members is limited to fifty; new members are admitted only when vacancies occur and after their proficiency has been approved by the entire active membership. Passive members are those who desire to retire from the active body, and are allowed to do so by a two-thirds vote of the active membership. Associate members take no part in musical work and are chosen by the active members. Honorary members are chosen by a unanimous vote of the active members. Student members are young people, musical students, who are recommended by their teachers. Two auxiliary choruses are maintained, one for women and one for men. The woman's auxiliary chorus is limited to sixty members, which has for twelve years been under the directorship of Harrison M. Wild, director of the Chicago Mendelssohn and Apollo clubs. The male chorus numbers about thirty voices. The student section has a membership of one hundred, has its own corps of officers, and holds monthly meetings.

Several active and honorary members of the club have achieved a reputation that is more than local. Mrs. Maude Fenlon Bollman has for more than ten years filled professional engagements throughout the country. She has studied in New York in recent years. Her beautiful soprano voice and charming personality have made her a favorite. Mr. and Mrs. George Nelson Holt spent several years in Paris. They now reside in Chicago, where Mrs. Holt has won distinction as an organist. Mrs. Fred H. Moffatt is known throughout northern Illinois

as the brilliant organist of the Second Congregational Church of this city. Myron E. Barnes was at one time head of the vocal department of Beloit College.

The officers of the Mendelssohn Club are: Mrs. Chandler Starr, president; Mrs. Fred H. Moffatt, vice-president; Miss Josephine Phinney, recording secretary; Miss Leola Arnold, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Charles Reitsch, treasurer; Mrs. Elliott West, manager; directors: Mrs. O. R. Brouse, Mrs. A. D. Early, Mrs. Maude F. Bollman, Miss Annie Walton.

MRS. CHANDLER STARR.

Mrs. Chandler Starr has been the president of the Mendelssohn Club since its organization, with the exception of seven years. She is to "the manner born" and possesses every quality of leadership. She served more than a quarter of a century as organist of the Second Congregational Church. As the real mother of the Mendelssohn Club she has given it a mother's devotion, and through this means her ministry has been inspirational and far-reaching. Her energy, enthusiasm and administrative ability have made the Mendelssohn Club one of the institutions of Rockford. Mrs. Starr has been assisted by a loyal band of capable associates. Officers and members have borne their part of the burden and share in the honor of achievement.

The world's greatest artists come to Rockford. Each season a number of recitals are given under the auspices of the club, which are always notable occasions. Among those who have visited Rockford may be mentioned: Madame Schumann-Heink; David Bispham, three times; Emilio Gogorza; Mendelssohn Quintet Club of Boston; Kneisel String Quartet, two visits; Flonzaly String Quartet; Pittsburg Symphony Orchestra of sixty pieces; Mme. Fannie Bloomfield-Zeisler; the late Edward A. MacDowell, America's greatest composer, two visits; Joseph Lhevinne, two visits; Harold Bauer; Madame Theresa Carenno; Mme. Tina Lerner; the late Emil Liebling; Chicago Mendelssohn Club, Chicago; Bruno Steindel; Gutia Casini; Madam Jeanne Jomelli; Jane Hannah Osborne, and many of the younger artists of great promise.

SCHUMANN CLUB.

The Schumann Club is another woman's organization devoted to the study of music. This club, which has about seventy members, had its inception in the efforts of Mrs. John Oberg, who a score of years ago organized her twelve young students for special study. The programs given by the young musicians attracted other students, and in time the membership privilege was extended to vocal students as well as pianists. Certain musical qualifications are required as a condition of membership.

ROCKFORD CELEBRITIES.

Rockford has made its contribution of artists to the world. Among the first was Mrs. Katharine Tanner Fisk. She received her academic education at Rockford College, from which she was graduated in 1881. After her marriage in the following December she began a course of study with Miss Fanny A. Root in Chicago; and later with Mrs. Sarah Hershey Eddy. She sang in church choirs in Chicago, and made her debut as a soloist in "The Messiah," December 27, 1890. She visited London with letters of introduction to Daniel Meyer, who was then one of the greatest concert managers in the world. She made a three years' engagement with Mr. Meyer, appearing in the Crystal Palace, London Symphony and Royal Albert Hall, and making a tour of the Kingdom. Mrs. Fisk possessed a rare contralto voice, supplemented by a regal presence and rare beauty. She has retired from professional life and lives in Los Angeles.

Wilhelm Heinrich achieved a reputation as "the blind tenor." He was born in Rockford, where his early life was spent. An accident when he was six years old left him totally blind. Mr. Heinrich never bewailed his fate, but with rare heroism he showed the world that a man may be infinitely greater than anything that can happen to him. He developed his gift of song, and sang his way in the world and into the hearts of the people. He visited the Fatherland and made several concert tours in Europe. His last years were spent in Boston, where he purchased a home, in which he loved to entertain his friends. Mr. Heinrich died in Boston December 26, 1911. The last rites were conducted in the Second Congregational Church of Rockford by Rev. P. M. Snyder.

Frank La Forge is known on two continents as a pianist and composer. He was born thirty-six years ago in Rockford, where the rudiments of his musical education were obtained. He continued his studies with Leopold Godowsky in Chicago. From there he went to Vienna, where he became a pupil of Leschetizky, the world's greatest piano teacher, who in time made his gifted pupil his assistant. It was while in Vienna that Mr. La Forge attracted attention as a composer, and his songs were sung in salons frequently by nobility. He was the first to introduce MacDowell's works to a Vienna public. After completing his studies in Vienna he opened a studio in Berlin, where he rapidly grew in favor. His genius attracted the attention of Mme. Gadsby, with whom he made an engagement for three years as her accompanist. He has since accompanied Mme. Sembrich and is now with Mme. Alda. His work is remarkable in the fact that he memorizes all his accompaniments. In this respect he is in a class by himself. Mr. La Forge has made more than a score of trips across the Atlantic. His home is in New York. He never married.

Madam Corinne Rider-Kelsey, who stands in the first rank of concert artists before the public today, is among the Rockford musicians who have made names for themselves in the world of music, both at home and abroad. Her voice, a dramatic soprano, is of a rare quality that is especially adapted to oratorio work, although, if her ambitions had been so directed, she would have been a star among the grand opera artists. Her first vocal studies were pursued at Oberlin, where she literally "worked" her way by assisting in various capacities in domestic duties. She returned to Rockford and secured a position as soprano in Court Street M. E. Church, putting herself under the tuition of L. A. Torrens, now connected with the Cosmopolitan School of Music in Chicago, who was the first to discover the possibilities of her voice, and to whom she gives the credit of laying the foundation for her musical success. Madam Rider-Kelsey was in Europe where she was booked for important concert engagements when the war broke out, compelling her return to this country, where she is now concertizing with great success. She has sung with the Boston Symphony and other of the leading orchestras, and has been soloist in many of the big musical festivals in the East and Middle West.

Miss Alice Sovereign, now Mrs. Samuel Dunseith, is another Rockford girl who has made good in her chosen profession both in this country and in Europe. Upon leaving Rockford a dozen or more years ago to broaden her musical education, she went to New York. While there she succeeded Janet Spencer, the well known contralto, in the quartet of the Central Congregational Church of Brooklyn, an important position. The advantages offered by foreign musical centers lured the gifted American girl and she went to Germany, where she had the good fortune of meeting Madam Marcella Sembrich, who was so impressed with the possibilities of her voice that she took her to her summer home and gave her daily instruction and coached her in operatic work, and as a result Mrs. Dunseith sang various roles in opera at Posen and later at the court opera at Bessau. Another important engagement of the Rockford girl while abroad was at Frankfurt-Am-Main. When Mme. Sembrich left her summer home for her annual concert tour she secured for her pupil the interest of Lombardi of Milan, with whom she studied for several years. In January, 1913, the singer returned to Rockford, where her marriage to Mr. Dunseith, a retired business man of Pittsburgh, took place and later the couple went to Italy, where Mrs. Dunseith again sang in opera for several seasons.

Jeanette Durno Collins, now of Chicago, is known in this country and in Europe as a remarkably gifted pianist.

Howard Wells has attained distinction as a teacher in piano. After leaving the musical department at Rockford College he went abroad and for several years he had a studio in Berlin. The outbreak of the European war compelled Mr. Wells to return to his native country and he has opened a studio in Chicago. He has recently published a text-book.

Albert Spalding, although not at any time a resident of Rockford, belongs to one of the old families of the city. He is a son of Walter Spalding, who was formerly a bookkeeper in the Winnebago National Bank. Mr. Spalding has won distinction as a violinist. He gave a Mendelssohn Club artist concert in Rockford February 21, 1916.

BANDS AND ORCHESTRAS.

From the days of the Civil war Rockford has had its band organizations. The Forest City

Band was organized in 1867, with August Dedrickson as leader, and for more than thirty years he served in that capacity. He was succeeded by Frank Fitzgerald, when the name was changed to Watch Factory Band, and later to the Rockford Military Band. Mr. Fitzgerald was succeeded by E. F. Blakeley. S. H. Buchanan is now leader.

Dedrickson's Orchestra, later known as the Opera House Orchestra, was an outgrowth of the Forest City Band, and prospered under the leadership of Mr. Dedrickson. Employes of the Haddorff Piano Company, the Emerson-Brantingham Company and the Barber-Colman Company maintain excellent band organizations. The Rockford High School Band was organized in 1907 with nineteen members, composed of freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors. John T. Haight, of the high school faculty, has been the leader from the first. The band is a self-sustaining and creditable organization. There are now thirty-six members. A second band was organized last autumn.

The Benedict Orchestra was organized in 1896 by the late Al Barker, and is still in the field. The Metropole and Opera House Orchestras are later organizations.

THE WEBER QUARTET.

The Weber Quartet leaped to fame at a single bound. It was organized in 1888 for campaign purposes, and was first called the Tippecanoe Club. The members were Myron E. Barnes, first tenor; Charles G. Rogers, second tenor; L. J. West, first bass and manager; Frank H. Andrew, second bass. Mr. Andrew was succeeded a year later by his brother, Henry Andrew, and when he removed to Montana he was succeeded by Frank D. Emerson. The quartet sang at a mass meeting in Battery D, Chicago, when James G. Blaine was the speaker. The boys made a hit with "What's the Matter with Harrison?" a campaign song written by O. C. Osborn, of Rockford. One of the notable engagements of the quartet was with the Knights Templar of Illinois, for the conclave at Washington, D. C. The quartet gave afternoon and evening receptions at the Arlington Hotel. A memorable incident of this trip was the visit to Mount Vernon. Services were held by the Illinois commandery, conducted by Rev. George C. Lorimer, one of the greatest preachers of the Baptist

denomination. The quartet sang "Lead, Kindly Light" and "Rock of Ages."

Another notable engagement was with H. H. Kohlsaas, at Galena, on a celebration of General Grant's birthday. At Rockford Mr. Kohlsaas took on his special car Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Talcott, Colonel Thomas G. Lawler and the quartet. On the train were Joseph Medill, Eugene Field and William McKinley, then governor of Ohio, who made a special request for several songs. The Weber quartet sang at the inauguration of President Harrison, and at the State Street Baptist Church of Rockford for two years. L. J. West and Frank D. Emerson are deceased.

LATER SINGING SOCIETIES.

Rockford has two Swedish singing societies of male voices, the Sveas Soner and the Lyran Club. The Sveas Soner Singing Society was organized in 1890. It now has a membership of twenty-two, limited to musicians whose voices are of the right quality and caliber to maintain good tonal balance. With six other Swedish-American societies, it organized the American Union of Swedish Singers, with a membership of over 1,000. The Sveas Soner took part in the program of the American Union of Swedish Singers at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, and in singing festivals in New York, Minneapolis, and other cities. The singers have made two tours in Sweden. The singing society is a part of the Sveas Soner proper, an organization which owns a three-story block on Seventh street.

The Lyran Society was organized in June, 1894, and has twenty-two members. It is also a part of the American Union and has sung in large American cities. The society sang in Chicago at the Athletic Marathon in the autumn of 1914. The Lyrans are members of the Lyran Society, which owns a hall on Fourth avenue.

The Gesang-Verein is a men's singing society composed of members of the Rockford Germania. The club studies the music for which the Fatherland is famous.

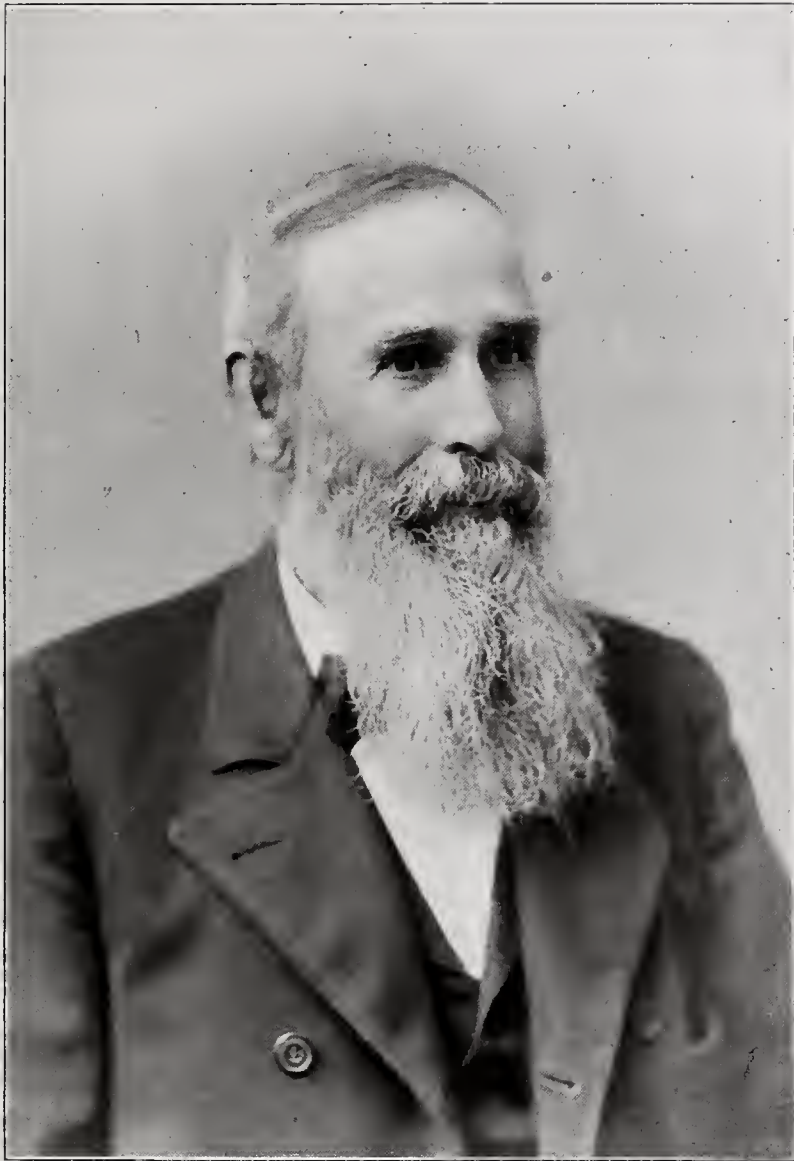
MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF ROCKFORD COLLEGE.

The musical department of Rockford College, which was formerly known as the conservatory,

has performed an important part in the musical life of Rockford. Prof. D. N. Hood was the head of the department from 1858 until 1895. He may be called the dean or father of music in Rockford, and laid secure the foundation for the splendid achievements of his successors. Prof. Hood was succeeded by Mrs. George Nelson Holt. Other Rockford musicians who have been identified with the department are: Mrs. Helen Sabin Brown, Howard Wells and Josephine Phinney. Rockford has also furnished several instructors for the department of vocal culture. These include Addie St. John, now Mrs. Farnum, Miss Caroline Radecke and Mrs. Daisy Force Scott, now Mrs. A. D. Early. The musical department of the college is now especially strong. Miss F. Marion Ralston is director, and instructor in piano and harmony. She is also a composer of note. Mrs. Laura Grant Short is instructor in organ and piano. She has been a pupil of Clarence Eddy and Alexandre Guilmant, and studied in Munich and Paris. Mrs. George Nelson Holt makes regular trips from Chicago to give instruction in piano.

CHURCHES ARE PATRONS OF MUSIC.

The churches of Rockford have been liberal patrons of music. One church spends nearly \$2,000 annually for this purpose, and others are proportionally generous. From the day when Miriam sounded "the loud timbrel o'er Egypt's dark sea," to celebrate the deliverance of Israel, until now, music has been a means of worship. Jessica, in "The Merchant of Venice," is never merry when she hears sweet music. So subtle and yet so potent is its power that it awakens the most tender memories, and becomes the vehicle of expression for the master passions of the soul, love, patriotism and religion. Thirty years ago there were two pipe organs in Rockford; now there are seventeen. In the melodious thunder of the organ the soul is most profoundly moved by the sense of majesty, as though God himself had breathed into the instrument the breath of life. Under the spell of the "Halleluiahs Chorus," "Unfold, Ye Portals," or "In the Cross of Christ I Glory," gossip in the sanctuary seems little less than sacrilege. The place whereon we stand at such a time is holy ground: in "the sound of a great amen."



WILLIAM W. MILLER

CHAPTER XXXIV.

BROWN'S HALL—OPERA HOUSE COMPLETED—CELEBRITIES OF STAGE AND PLATFORM—MANAGERS OF OPERA HOUSE—MOVING PICTURE HOUSES—VAUDEVILLE HOUSES—PALACE AMUSEMENT COMPANY.

BROWN'S HALL.

To the older residents of Rockford Brown's Hall is only a memory, while to a large number of its population it is an unknown name. The historic block no longer exists in its original form, as its lower portion now forms a part of the Von Weise dry goods store. Nearly fifty years ago queens of song, renowned orators, theatrical stars of the first magnitude, poets and reformers appeared on its stage.

The hall was erected in 1864 by the late Horace Brown, and the property, completely remodeled in 1902 for A. Appel & Co., is still owned by the Brown estate. The block consisted of three stores, with the hall occupying the entire second story. It had a seating capacity of nearly one thousand, including that afforded by a gallery 20 feet wide and extending the entire length of the street front. Its proportions were 64 by 90 feet. The eastern portion of the ground floor was occupied by the postoffice. Brown's Hall was formally dedicated November 17, 1864, with a public celebration of the second election of Abraham Lincoln. Women of the city served dinner, the proceeds of which were used for the benefit of soldiers' families. In January, 1865, Dr. J. P. Norman leased Brown's Hall, and thus began the career of Rockford's first amusement manager. Dr. Norman was born in New York, in 1811. He came to Rockford in 1853, and opened a dental office. Soon after leasing Brown's Hall Dr. Norman devoted his exclusive attention to providing entertainment for his townspeople, and to the day of his death he continued in this congenial occupation. He was a successful manager, and established a wide reputation.

Previous to the advent of Dr. Norman in the amusement field, theatrical performances in Rockford were largely of the barnstorming class. There was Dan Rice's menagerie with its one ring circus, while Swiss bellringers and the

Hutchinson family made occasional visits. Entertainments of an intellectual and educational nature were provided through the lyceum, which called to the lecture platform the most noted speakers of the day. Many of these came to Rockford under local auspices. It remained for Dr. Norman, however, to create and supply a demand for amusement on a strictly business basis. The historian will invoke Father Time to summon some of those noble shades who have long dwelt in the hall of fame, to pass once more before the footlights.

James E. Murdoch, an actor of note, was one of the first celebrities to fill a local engagement. He appeared in Brown's Hall March 28, 1865, when he entertained with an evening of Shakespearean and other readings.

Artemus Ward appeared April 12, 1865, in the role of humorist, lecturer and showman. He came neither as an educator nor a reformer, but he diverted his patrons from dyspepsia and melancholy by his irresistible "goaks."

Charles Sumner, distinguished senator from Massachusetts, delivered his lecture, entitled "Are We a Nation?" October 18, 1867. The object of Mr. Sumner's tour in the West was evidently to create public sentiment in behalf of his bill before Congress for universal suffrage.

On January 17, 1868, Rockford was honored with a visit from that famous violinist, Ole Bull. The spell by which he charmed his audiences was that of a magnificent gentleman as well as an artistic genius.

Anna Dickinson, one of the foremost women of her time, delivered her lecture on "Idiots and Women," January 22, 1868. The lecture was an appeal for women suffrage; but in that day the cause was not popular, and local press comment was apparently tinged with the popular prejudice. She was called a "feminine Wendell Phillips," and was charged with being an imitator of that sturdy reformer. In the autumn of 1866 Anna Dickinson was advertised to lecture in Rockford. On arriving in the city she was stricken suddenly and seriously ill, and was obliged to cancel her engagement. She was under the care of Dr. Charles H. Richings, and fully recovered. In January of the following year Dr. Richings received from his grateful patient two beautiful chased solid silver medallion goblets, with this inscription: "To Charles H. Richings, M. D., in remem-

brance of a life well saved. With grateful regard from Anna E. Dickinson, 1867." Anna Dickinson made subsequent visits to Rockford. One of these was on January 15, 1871, when she delivered her lecture on "Joan of Arc."

John Dillon, a comedian, popular in the Middle West, visited Rockford January 24, 1868, and was always a welcome entertainer thereafter, sober or otherwise. In whatever role John Dillon appeared, the personality of the actor was always uppermost. This is not considered consistent with histrionic art, but Dillon was *sui generis*. Off the stage he was a charming Irish gentleman, of immaculate dress and courtly manner. It is related of him that when he visited Rockford several years later, and first saw the new Grand opera house, he stood squarely in front of it, removed his silk hat, and did low obeisance with an air of Quixotic chivalry. John Dillon was a familiar figure before the footlights more than forty years.

David R. Locke addressed a Rockford audience February 14, 1868. No newspaper man of his time, with the single exception of Horace Greeley, had a greater reputation than David R. Locke, better known as "Petroleum V. Nasby, wich wuz postmaster." Mr. Loocke's subject was "Cursed be Canaan," and the purpose of his lecture was to quicken popular interest in the recently emancipated negro. Miss Bertha Locke, who became Mrs. Frank G. Smith and prominent in social and musical circles, was a niece of Mr. Locke.

Within two weeks after Mr. Locke's lecture, Fred Douglass, an illustrious son of "Cursed Canaan," visited Rockford and delivered his lecture on "Self-Made Men."

Olive Logan on January 23, 1869, delivered her lecture on "Paris, the City of Luxury." Olive Logan returned to Rockford February 3, 1871, when she lectured on "Our Girls."

Kate Field delivered her lecture, "Among the Adirondacks," February 24, 1870.

Wendell Phillips discussed "The Questions of Today" in a lecture delivered January 4, 1871.

Perhaps the greatest dramatic event in the history of Brown's Hall was the engagement of Lawrence Barrett. On May 23, 1873, he appeared in Hamlet and the following night in Lester Wallack's drama, "Rosedale."

James T. Fields, who had retired from the editorship of the Atlantic Monthly, made a "Plea for Cheerfulness" October 13, 1875. Mr.

Fields' volume of reminiscences, "Yesterdays with Authors," still retains a well deserved popularity.

Theodore Tilton, editor of the New York Independent, and a brilliant orator, discussed "The Problem of Life" in a lecture delivered April 4, 1876. The problem, said the speaker, was the development of character. Mr. Tilton appeared to retain his faith in human nature, despite his tragic experience. He was greeted by a large audience and made a profound impression.

Henry Ward Beecher made his last visit to Rockford February 14, 1877, when he delivered his lecture on "The Ministry of Wealth." He was introduced by Hiram R. Enoch, editor of the Rockford Journal. Mr. Beecher showed signs of age, yet he delivered his message with much of his native force and beautiful imagery. He had been through the fiery furnace, although the charges of scandal preferred by Theodore Tilton had resulted in his acquittal. This painful experience doubtless increased the demand for him on the lecture platform. Dr. Norman told the writer that he paid Mr. Beecher \$1,350 for two lectures, one at Rockford and the other at Davenport, Iowa, and made money on the engagement. It was on this visit to Rockford that Mr. Beecher pronounced the county jail a wart on the public square.

Camilla Urso entertained a Rockford audience January 16, 1878, with a program of violin music.

Annie Louise Cary was an attraction of September, 1878. The Register critic was most enthusiastic in his praise. "As a contralto Cary has no equal on the face of the globe. The full, round, deep tones of Cary, like the solemn, soul-stirring melodies of some monastery organ, will course through the memory with a never-to-be-forgotten flood of harmony."

Robert G. Ingersoll delivered his lecture on "The Liberty of Man, Woman and Child" April 18, 1879. The colonel was then in the acme of his fame, and Brown's Hall was taxed to the utmost. Dr. Norman paid Colonel Ingersoll \$500 for this lecture. The writer heard Colonel Ingersoll on several occasions, and waiving all religious considerations, does not hesitate to say this lecture was his masterpiece. His remarkable tribute to Shakespeare has never been fully preserved, as then delivered, in any of his published addresses.

A few days later Maggie Mitchell appeared in "Fanchon, the Cricket," and Kate Claxton followed, May 5, in "The Double Marriage."

September 6, 1879, Madame Janauschek, the Hungarian tragedienne, thrilled an audience with her interpretation of Schiller's tragedy, "Mary Stuart."

Remenyi, "the greatest violinist on earth," as the critic called him, was in Rockford June 23, 1881. "We have heard Remenyi, and our souls are satisfied," said a local writer. "Schubert's Serenade" was "Schubert's conception broadened and enlarged to a beauty of harmony a hundredfold by Remenyi's genius."

The last performance in Brown's Hall was given November 8, 1881, by "The Jollities." All these celebrities have passed from the stage of action. The gifts of the artist, the singer, the actor and the orator, if devoted to worthy ends, may be as sacred as the service of priest and prophet. They come from the same bounteous Creator, who, when he had made all things, saw that they were good. There is an infinite variety in genius, as in nature, and its ministry is a part of our divine heritage.

OPERA HOUSE COMPLETED.

Brown's Hall was Rockford's amusement center for a quarter of a century. It then became apparent that it had outlived its usefulness for this purpose, and there was a general desire for a modernly equipped opera house. The first meeting for this purpose was held November 6, 1880, at the office of William Lathrop, when it was proposed to incorporate the Rockford Opera House Association. The incorporators were John H. Sherratt, William Watson, T. G. Lawler, W. T. Robertson, A. C. Deming and C. C. Jones. The first board of directors consisted of Levi Rhoades, G. S. Haskell, John H. Sherratt, C. C. Jones, Thomas Butterworth, R. H. Tinker and T. G. Lawler.

The site on North Wyman street was purchased for \$1,700. J. M. Wood, of Chicago, was the architect; David Keyt, of Rockford, was awarded the contract for construction for \$15,480; and Spoor Mackey, of Chicago, supplied the furnishings for \$7,500. In May, 1881, the company leased the opera house to Dr. J. P. Norman for one year, with the privilege of three. Dr. Norman was to receive one-third of the receipts after paying expenses. The opera house

was informally opened November 11, 1881, with brief addresses by local citizens, and a musical program by home talent. There was a second informal opening the following night, when Rockford singers presented "The Pirates of Penzance." The "formal grand opening" occurred November 14, with Clara Louise Kellogg as the stellar attraction.

CELEBRITIES OF STAGE AND PLATFORM.

Many celebrities of the stage and platform were seen at the opera house during the first decade. The record for the first year is as follows: January 30, 1882, John B. Gough visited Rockford for the last time, when he delivered a composite lecture, composed of parts of "Blunders" and "Personal and Platform Experiences." On March 2, Oscar Wilde delivered his lecture on "The English Renaissance." One critic referred to him as a "personified conundrum." The greatest dramatic event in the history of Rockford was the appearance of Edwin Booth, March 21, in "Hamlet." The sale of seats opened at 8 o'clock on the morning of March 16, and at 1:30 a line had formed in front of the box office. The highest price for seats was \$2; but some fell into the hands of speculators, who doubled the price. Mr. Booth received 85 per cent of the box receipts and the opera house company cleared \$200 on the engagement. Thomas W. Keene appeared April 26 in "Richard III." On May 27, Januschek presented "Mother and Son." Anna Dickinson, after attaining distinction on the lecture platform, sought histrionic honors. She was advertised to present "Hamlet," June 12. The recent presentation by Booth evidently led her to make a change at the last hour, and she appeared in "The Lady of Lyons." The next notable attraction was October 24, when Mary Anderson made her only visit to Rockford. Her role was Parthenia, in "Ingomar," and the scene in which she wins the heart of the barbarian, so they are thenceforth "two souls with but a single thought," is recalled by the writer as the most beautiful picture he has ever seen behind the footlights. Denman Thompson, an old-time favorite, gave his masterpiece, "Josh Whitcomb," November 10. The last attraction of the year was Josh "Billings," who delivered his lecture on "Luv."

The attractions of 1883 were few, but notable.

Thomas W. Keene made a return engagement May 5, in "Richelieu." September 26, Margaret Mather made her first appearance in "Romeo and Juliet." Emma Abbott, one of the best known grand opera singers of her time, was heard November 1 in "Mignon." Madame Modjeska, a distinguished Polish actress of Shakespearean roles, paid her first visit to Rockford November 9, when she appeared in her greatest character, Rosalind, in "As You Like It." A reception was tendered Madame Modjeska after the performance at the Holland House. Joe Jefferson visited Rockford for the last time November 26, when he appeared in the role that made him famous, "Rip Van Winkle."

The season of 1884 opened January 2 with Theodore Thomas' orchestra, which played to a small house. Madame Modjeska returned May 19, in "Frou-Frou." Thomas W. Keene made another visit June 10, appearing as Cassius in "Julius Caesar."

Several popular speakers were heard in 1885. Robert J. Burdette gave his lecture March 5 on "The Rise and Fall of the Mustache." General Benjamin M. Prentiss delivered his lecture March 26 on "The Battle of Shiloh." Colonel R. G. Ingersoll was here May 7 in his lecture, "Which Way?" Lawrence Barrett presented "Francesca da Rimini" October 6. Madame Modjeska apparently became fond of Rockford. She came the third time within two years, and appeared October 19 in "Twelfth Night."

Rockford was visited by several distinguished lecturers during 1886. January 14, Prof. Alexander Winchell, one of the most eminent geologists of his time, and occupying a chair at the University of Michigan, gave a lecture in Centennial church on "Sketches of Creation." A reception was tendered him at the home of Miss Mary Holmes. Prof. David Swing paid his third visit to the city as a lecturer February 23, when he gave an address in the opera house under the auspices of the senior class of the high school. Dr. Lyman Abbott gave his only address in Rockford, June 23, before the graduating class of Rockford seminary, in the old Second Congregational church. Judge Albion W. Tourgee, a writer of several popular novels dealing with the reconstruction period, delivered a lecture in the opera house December 3, under the auspices of the Mutual Benefit Society, a company of young men organized for literary

and social purposes. "Give Us a Rest" was the subject of Judge Tourgee's address.

The year 1886 seems to have been lacking in theatrical engagements worthy of note. Actors and lecturers divided the honors in 1887. Dr. H. W. Thomas spoke January 10 under the auspices of the Round Table, on "Uses and Abuses." General Lew Wallace gave his lecture on "Turkey and the Turks" January 11, in the Y. M. C. A. course. Minnie Maddern played "Caprice" February 7. In view of the fact that Minnie Maddern Fiske is now the foremost American actress, the critic's comment is of especial interest: "Minnie Maddern guyed a small audience from the stage. She giggled and cast sheep's eyes and was too utterly silly." Madame Modjeska played "Mary Stuart" April 18. There was a revival of "Pinafore" in May, produced three nights by home talent, with one exception. The character of Josephine was taken by Mrs. Louis Falk, whose husband was at that time the best known organist in Chicago. Frederick Warde was here four nights of the week of September 6. His repertoire included "Damon and Pythias," "Virginius," "Galba, the Gladiator," and "Richard III." On November 10 Hon. B. K. Bruce, of Mississippi, the first colored member of the United States senate, delivered a lecture on the future of his race.

The theatrical event of 1888 was the appearance of Richard Mansfield, March 3, in "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." Janauschek was seen in "Meg Merrilles" March 16. Charles Dickens, Jr., delighted an audience April 3 with readings from "David Copperfield" and "Pickwick Papers," from the pen of his illustrious father. Robert Downing was here in June and Thomas W. Keene in September, in legitimate drama.

Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage delivered his familiar lecture on "Big Blunders" in the First Lutheran church March 29, before the largest audience that had ever greeted a lecturer in Rockford up to that time. The church has a seating capacity of 2,000, and it was completely filled.

Mrs. Mary A. Livermore delivered her lecture, "The Boy of Today," in the First Congregational church January 10, 1888. Sam Jones, who was just then coming into prominence as a platform speaker, delivered his lecture on "Character and Characters" at the opera house. He appeared under the auspices of the Y. M. C.



Albas. B. Morse



Henrietta Morse

A. Susan B. Anthony addressed an equal suffrage convention November 21, and was tendered a reception at the home of Ralph Emerson.

There were few notable lecture engagements during the year 1889. James Whitcomb Riley and "Bill Nye," then familiarly known as the "poet and his lyre," entertained an audience at the opera house. Rev. Washington Gladden paid one of his several visits February 14, when he delivered his lecture on "The Life and Times of Thomas Carlyle," under the auspices of the Round Table.

On April 27, George W. Cable, then in the height of his popularity as a writer of stories of southern life, gave a reading in the First Congregational church.

Mlle. Rhea paid Rockford her first visit May 20, when she was seen as Beatrice in "Much Ado About Nothing." The appearance of Thomas W. Keene, May 6, 1890, is worthy of note because he presented "Louis XI," the first time it was ever seen in this city. It was Henry Irving's great role.

Dr. Norman died May 14, 1883, and he was succeeded as manager of the opera house by C. C. Jones. He retained this position until the theater was sold to Chamberlain, Peck & Company. Mr. Jones' successors have been Thomas Hawks, George B. Peck, George C. Sackett, Hugh Flannery, Charles Lamb, Harry F. Grampp and George F. Peck. The opera house is now owned by George F. Peck, George C. Sackett and George M. Gatts. January 7, 1914, the policy of the opera house was changed and moving pictures were made its leading feature.

VAUDEVILLE HOUSES.

Rockford's first vaudeville house was opened in 1904. A. J. Shimp visited the city on his way to Dubuque, Iowa, to open a playhouse. He quickly came to the conclusion that Rockford was an inviting field, and established the "Bijou" on East State street, which proved so successful that Mr. Shimp opened the Orpheum on North Main street.

The Palace Amusement Company was incorporated in 1915, with a capital stock of \$100,000. The stockholders are practically the same persons who had been interested in the Orpheum company, a dozen local citizens being associated with Walter S. Butterfield, Marcus

Heiman and Joseph Finn, of Chicago, in the enterprise. The officers of the Palace company are: W. S. Butterfield, president; Fred E. Sterling, vice president; Marcus Heiman, treasurer; and Fred E. Carpenter, secretary. In 1914 the Palace company purchased of A. J. Shimp and Fred E. Carpenter the 99-year lease which they held from the Lovejoy estate, of Janesville, on the site of the new house, which had a frontage of 88 feet on North Main street, running through to Wyman street. Then the work was undertaken of securing a new 99-year lease on the property, with terms more favorable for the lessees, this requiring many months of dickering between the attorneys for the two sides. A satisfactory lease was executed and printed in book form. The theater, as it stands complete, represents an investment of \$110,000, and was opened February 22, 1915. Bert Damon is manager.

MOVING PICTURES.

"The Palm" is a beautiful show house devoted exclusively to moving pictures. It was dedicated December 1, 1913. A large pipe organ is played during all exhibitions. Charles Lamb is secretary and manager. "The Palm" is the only building erected exclusively for moving pictures, although there are several others occupying leased buildings in various parts of the city.

CHAPTER XXXV.

CLUBS AND COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

CLUB DEVELOPMENT—ORGANIZATIONS AT ROCKFORD
—CHAMBER OF COMMERCE—MANUFACTURERS'
AND SHIPPERS' ASSOCIATION—TRAFFIC CLUB—
ROCKFORD CLUB—ROCKFORD'S MERCHANTS' AND
BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION—EAST STATE
STREET BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION—SEVENTH
STREET BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION—FOUR-
TEENTH AVENUE BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION—
BAR ASSOCIATION—REAL ESTATE BOARD—THE

ROCKFORD WOMAN'S CLUB—THE MONDAY CLUB—
OLDEST WOMAN'S LITERARY CLUB IN ROCKFORD—
THE '84 CLUB—THE CENTURY CLUB—CATHOLIC
WOMAN'S LEAGUE—KING'S DAUGHTERS—DAUGH-
TERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION—THE OUT-
LOOK CLUB—THE ADVANCE CLUB—THE MOTHER'S
STUDY CLUB—THE HEALTH CLUB—THE BURNS
CLUB—OLDEST SOCIAL CLUB IN ROCKFORD—GER-
MANIA GESANG VEREIN—THE ROUND TABLE—
THE ARGONAUTS—UNITY CLUB—SVEA SONER
SOCIETY—COMMERCIAL CLUB—ARTS AND CRAFTS
SOCIETY—ROCKFORD ART ASSOCIATION—ROCKFORD
ART GUILD—UNIVERSITY CLUB—SINGERS AND
PLAYERS CLUB—COUNTRY CLUB—MOTOR CLUB—
THE WALTONIANS—THE NATURE STUDY CLUB—
OTHER OUT DOOR CLUBS.

CLUB DEVELOPMENT.

Clubs are a development of complex modern life. Men and women organize for commercial, social, literary, scientific and other aims. The church was once the social center of the community; but this is no longer the fact in many cities. The church has not lost any of its power; but that power is diffused through many channels. The club may be, in fact, an aid to the church. It is a melting pot which fuses all in a common humanity. Rockford is a city where Jew and Gentile, Protestant and Catholic, meet in their clubs and discuss problems of civic welfare. The ideal club is a little democracy; it is a herald of good will.

The mention of every club of Rockford would make this chapter of unreasonable length; but an effort has been made to include those that have made some real contribution to the common good.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Rockford Chamber of Commerce was organized in the fall of 1910, but did not begin active work until the latter part of January, 1911. This was the first organization of its kind in Rockford and one of the first in the northern part of the state, and the citizens were unfamiliar with the aims and purposes of such an organization and the wide scope of work which it might embrace. A number of prominent business men were active in the initiative effort to perfect the organization, and at the election of officers R. K. Welsh was named as

its president, and A. G. Brown as secretary.

Mr. Welsh served successfully in the capacity of president for three years, and Mr. Brown as secretary for about two years. Upon the acceptance of the latter's resignation, F. D. E. Babcock was elected secretary, and has served in this capacity for three years. Succeeding Mr. Welsh, E. H. Keeler was elected president, serving for one year, and he, in turn, was followed by Adam Gschwindt, who also guided the destinies of the organization for a year. The present officers are: Judson S. Joslyn, president; Claude Dunlap, vice president; F. D. E. Babcock, secretary, and Ralph B. Spottswood, treasurer. The following are directors: R. K. Welsh, E. H. Keeler, W. H. Keig, F. E. Carpenter, F. S. Datin, E. W. Brown, G. M. Olson, W. H. Barnes, W. A. Stapleton, E. L. Thayer, J. S. Joslyn, Claude Dunlap, Adam Gschwindt, A. T. Jackson, W. C. Sparks, F. G. Hogland, L. H. Clark, H. C. Porter, A. J. Holtz, J. T. Peters, G. E. Hanson, J. E. Armstrong, John Camlin, H. B. North, Henry Hultberg, L. Fred Muller.

The Chamber of Commerce was not organized for the purpose of booming Rockford, but for the purpose of developing its natural advantages and to assist in every way possible in the enlargement of its manufacturing industries; the improvement of its civic conditions, to work for anything which might be in the way of betterment for the city; to make Rockford the best place for the citizen, the business man, the laborer, the manufacturer, and the home-seeker. In this respect it has aided materially in making Rockford the beautiful and progressive city that it is today. The officers have been active and, together with the members, have shown a spirit of co-operation which has culminated in many better things for the city, and to the fact that the Chamber of Commerce exists is due many improvements and the location of several industries which have been of notable value to the city. It not only has been active in its endeavors to secure new manufacturing industries, but it has worked hand in hand with any organization which was endeavoring to improve conditions as they existed. It has also acted as host to numerous conventions, and to societies and delegations of visitors from other large cities. While it has not erected any monument to itself, yet its influence is felt in many directions, and it is constantly in receipt of requests

for assistance in worthy causes that are taken up by the church and civic societies. It is always ready to co-operate with local organizations in anything that will make Rockford better and more attractive to its own citizens and to those who live outside. At the time of organization, the results to be obtained were problematical, but with the indomitable Rockford spirit which pervades the entire community, the organization was able, by the earnest co-operation of its members and of the city at large, to perform many things which have been of inestimable value to the city.

MANUFACTURERS' AND SHIPPERS' ASSOCIATION.

On March 3, 1903, twelve of the leading business men of Rockford held an informal meeting for the purpose of discussing the advisability of forming an association of the various business interests of the city. The object was to conserve the interests of the manufacturers and others of the city in every legitimate way, and at an adjourned meeting on March 4, 1903, the organization was perfected and the following officers elected:

P. A. Peterson, president; H. F. Forbes, vice-president; C. S. Brantingham, secretary; T. D. Reber, treasurer. On May 13, 1903, it was decided to obtain the service of someone to conduct the affairs of the association, and on May 13, 1903, J. M. Allen was appointed traffic manager of the association. Mr. Allen has been succeeded as secretary and traffic manager by C. B. Gregory and C. S. Bather.

The work of the association, while mainly pertaining to matters relating to transportation, is sufficiently broad in its scope to take care of all other matters of interest to association members; particularly legislation before the federal congress and the state legislature, and much good has been accomplished along these lines. Rockford is an important industrial center and is in need of an organization of this kind; it has been found as much a necessity as it has in other industrial cities of the country, as has been demonstrated by the results obtained in the past.

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC CLUB.

The Rockford Traffic Club was organized November 9, 1915. The officers are: J. H.

Miller, traffic manager of Emerson-Brantingham Company, president; J. J. Carty, general agent of Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company, vice-president; L. E. Golden, assistant traffic manager of the Manufacturers' and Shippers' Association, secretary and treasurer. The purpose is to institute and maintain an educational campaign along traffic lines; and its meetings are to be a clearing house for industrial and railroad traffic matters. The club also aims to develop social interest and general good fellowship between men interested in freight traffic affairs.

ROCKFORD CLUB.

The first officers of the Rockford Club, which was formed "to bring together those interested in improving civic affairs, to advance the business interests of the city of Rockford, and promote sociability among its members," were: E. W. Brown, president; G. C. Purdy, vice-president; Robert Lathrop, secretary; and Chandler Starr, treasurer. The directors were: F. L. Cleveland, J. August Carlstrom, B. Bollman, C. S. Brantingham, Eugene F. Garey, P. A. Peterson, Levin Faust, H. C. Porter, John M. Clark and C. H. Wilson. The club was incorporated February 13, 1909. The present officers are: President, H. S. Hicks; secretary, William D. Knight; treasurer, M. E. Baker. These men, with A. C. Brearley, T. B. Thompson, F. S. Datin, Frank J. O'Brien, W. H. Bruner, M. R. Harned, H. C. Porter and Levin Faust, constitute the present board of directors.

The Rockford Merchants' and Business Men's Association was formed for the purpose of promoting collections. Its most notable work is the annual publication of a rating-book of credits. D. S. Coonrad, the secretary, prepares the ratings from information furnished by subscribers.

The East State Street Business Men's Association was formed many years ago, but it is only recently that it has become a real factor in business. Claude Dunlap is president and Alfred J. Christianson, secretary.

The Seventh Street Business Men's Association performs a similar function for that portion of the city. George E. Hanson is president and A. T. Ekeberg is secretary.

The Fourteenth Avenue Business Men's Association is the latest society organized for mutual

business interests. The South Rockford Civic League and the West Rockford Improvement Association look after the interests of their respective sections.

The Rockford Bar Association had its origin in a banquet tendered the late Hon. Rufus C. Bailey, December 1, 1906, upon his retirement from the probate bench. A. D. Early, as chairman of a committee, submitted a report at a meeting of attorneys at the courthouse January 16, 1907. This report was unanimously adopted and on February 4 the association was incorporated. Charles W. Ferguson is president; Harry B. Andrews, vice-president; Thomas E. Gill, secretary; Blakeman B. Early, treasurer.

The Rockford Real Estate Board is composed of nearly all the agents in the city.

THE ROCKFORD WOMAN'S CLUB.

The idea of a Rockford Woman's Club was born in the minds of a few women whose efforts were at first only partially successful. The best expression of it that could be obtained in 1897 was the Rockford Federation of Women's Clubs, made up of one hundred and fifty women representing twelve existing clubs, namely: The Monday Club, the '84 Club, the Century Club, the Outlook Club, the Magazine Club, the Current Events Club, St. Mary's Reading Circle, Sorosis, the Current History Club, the Advance Club, Mothers' Study Club and the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Mrs. Seely Perry was first president of this Federation, and it did valuable service for the community. In 1897 it managed with eminent success a Pingree potato patch for the relief of the unemployed of the city. It took up other forms of public-spirited work, among which was the employment of Mrs. Carl Grout as probation officer. This work was the first step which later led to the establishment of the Farm School for Boys by a group of people whose eyes had been opened to the need for it. Another important feature of the Federation work was the aid with which it encouraged Miss Mary Foote, now principal at Jackson School, in her efforts against the sentiment of the school board to establish sewing instruction in the public schools.

After the Federation had been tried for seven years, in 1904 the demand for a distinct and independent woman's club was satisfied. The

Federation was recast into the Rockford Woman's Club, quite separate from those twelve original bodies, which still continued their existence. The women who served as president of the Federation are Mrs. Seely Perry, Mrs. Ella G. Root, Mrs. N. F. Thompson and Mrs. William A. Talcott.

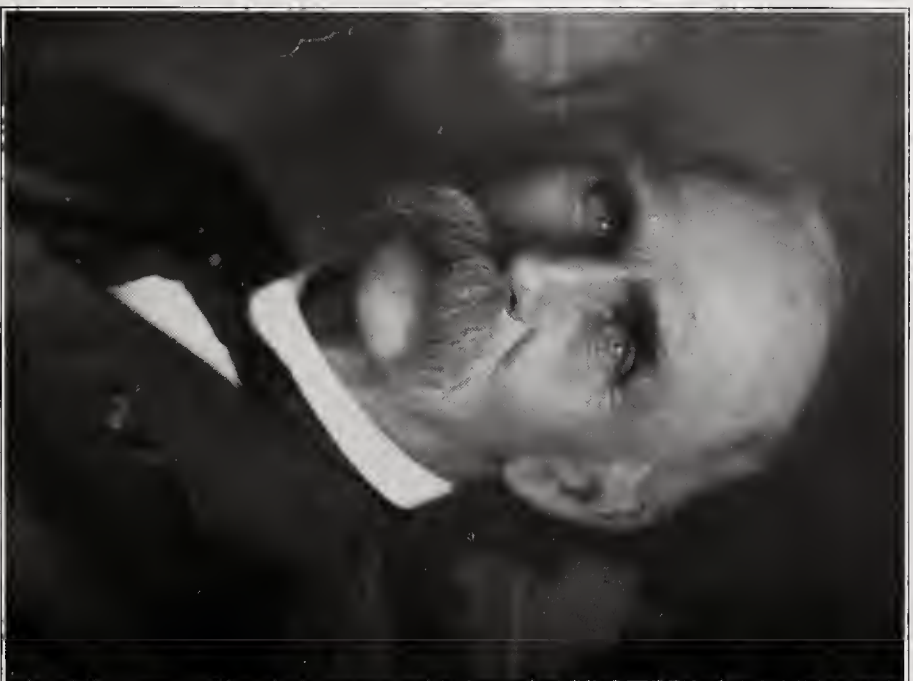
The Rockford Woman's Club has had as its president since 1907, Miss Jessie I. Spafford, under whose devoted leadership the membership has grown from eighty-one to one thousand, with a waiting list of more than fifty women. The scope of the club work has broadened with increased numbers and its influence is such as cannot be ignored. Besides the cultural opportunities which the club has furnished and is each week providing for its members through the best to be obtained in programs, it has reached out into unselfish service in other directions. One of these is the maintenance of a cafeteria lunch-room at the High School, which, since its establishment in 1905, has furnished the students with varied and nourishing noon-day fare at an average price of thirteen cents a meal.

Since 1913 the club has maintained its most altruistic venture, a social settlement on South Main street. It is named Montague House, for the original owners of the home, which the park board lends to the Woman's Club for the work. Here educational classes of all sorts for all ages, and wholesome recreation privileges, are arranged for and carried through by the well-loved and efficient directors, Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Thompson. This successful venture is made possible by the devoted efforts of the women on Montague House committee, led by Mrs. L. H. Clark.

The latest and largest undertaking in the club's history is the building of a permanent home. The club house is to be a memorial to the late Mrs. Ralph Emerson, whose children and grandchildren, together with Mrs. William A. Talcott and Mrs. Wait Talcott, are making possible the project by their gift of the site at the corner of Church street and Park avenue. The Emerson family is giving in addition the sum of \$24,000, which is approximately two-fifths of the cost of the building. The remaining three-fifths is to be the gift of the club members. With such splendid equipment the club is moving on to enlarge and better its already important service to the community. Its proposed



MRS. W. C. MURREFELDT



Mr. Murrefeldt

social service will include the agitation for a housing ordinance, recreation facilities and child welfare.

MONDAY CLUB.

The Monday Club is the oldest woman's literary club in Rockford. For nearly forty years it has done a work second to no organization of its kind in the country, and may be considered a brilliant example of what women are capable of accomplishing where there is real desire and determination. The club was organized in 1877, when a company of women responded to an invitation of Mrs. Harriet Sanford. Mrs. Caroline A. Brazee, who was then Miss Potter, was the first leader; and she and Mrs. W. A. Talcott are the only resident survivors of the original membership.

THE '84 CLUB.

The '84 Club was formed in 1884 for the purpose of taking up the work of the Chautauqua Literary and Social Circle. The leaders were Mrs. L. L. Watson, Mrs. Julia P. Warren and Mrs. J. P. Perkins. When the Chautauqua work was completed in 1888 other courses were adopted and the name changed to the "'84."

THE CENTURY CLUB.

In 1888 a company of women organized a class for the study of Robert Browning. Other fields of literature and history invited them and in 1891 the name was changed to the Century Club. Mrs. H. W. Taylor was the regular leader until her death, January 31, 1915. Mrs. William Dobson is president and Mrs. Eugene Sabin is recording secretary and treasurer.

CATHOLIC WOMAN'S LEAGUE.

In response to a call made by Rt.-Rev. P. J. Muldoon, bishop of Rockford, a number of Catholic women met at St. James' Hall, November 21, 1909, to discuss the formation of a league. Two weeks later a temporary organization was formed. During this preliminary period great interest was shown and three guilds were formed for study, charity and music. These were active during the winter of 1909-1910. In April the league effected a permanent organiza-

tion. Miss Lillian Storen was chosen president, and Miss Margaret Hennessey, recording secretary. The objects for which the league was formed are social intercourse, intellectual improvement and a promotion of the higher interests of Catholic women. General meetings for all members are held quarterly. Bi-weekly meetings of the three guilds are held from October through May.

The work of the study guild consists chiefly of a series of lectures on the New Testament, and a discussion of books and current topics. The charity guild has in many ways become a great power for good. During each year the members make hundreds of pieces of altar linen which are distributed not only among the poor parishes of Rockford diocese, but many of them are sent to far distant missions. The guild also remembers the charitable institutions of Rockford at Christmas time; it makes and sends clothing to St. Vincent's Orphanage at Freeport, and aids families at home. The music guild provides a series of enjoyable programs each year. In March, 1913, the league joined the Federation of Catholic Societies of Illinois, which affiliation also means membership in the American Federation of Catholic Societies. The same year it was incorporated under the laws of Illinois. In April, 1915, it was affiliated with the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs and participated in the meetings of that organization held in Rockford in November, 1915.

The most important work of the league is the establishment of St. Elizabeth's Social Center. In September, 1911, a number of the members began to teach sewing to the children in South Rockford. Over fifty children were enrolled in the classes, which met in one of the homes at first, and later in Woodmen's Hall, which was kindly donated for this purpose. As the volunteer workers who taught these classes became more familiar with conditions among foreigners in this section of the city, they advocated a continuation of the work. Early in the autumn of 1912 the league purchased the property at 1505 South Main street, which has since been known as St. Elizabeth's Social Center. Although the Center is maintained by the league, the control of its affairs is in the hands of a governing body of five persons, known as St. Elizabeth's house committee. Since the institution of the Center Miss Alice C. Walsh has served as the efficient chairman of this com-

mittee; and it is to her unceasing efforts in striving for the social, moral and religious uplift of humanity that Bishop Muldoon, the spiritual director, and all members of the society feel that in great measure the success of the work is due.

Each year several hundred children have been enrolled at St. Elizabeth's. The work has grown until there are now classes in sewing for the children, dressmaking for the older pupils, cooking, music, and manual training. For the very young children of the neighborhood there are two kindergarten classes; one is conducted at the Center; the other has been transferred to St. Anthony's School Hall on account of lack of room at the former place. Each is in charge of a salaried worker, who is assisted by volunteers. There are several evening classes in all branches helpful to foreigners. Some of these classes, too, on account of crowded conditions at the Center, are meeting at St. Anthony's School Hall.

The Muldoon Club, consisting of over fifty Italian young men, was organized in 1915; there are also three clubs of Lithuanian young men.

During the summer months clinics have been frequently conducted under the direction of the Rockford Visiting Nurse Association. The matron of the Center and a visiting committee frequently visit the homes of newer citizens and report cases worthy of assistance. This important work of visiting has been carried on in connection with the Public Welfare Association, as the league has representation on the board and visiting committee of that organization.

The league now has a membership of more than four hundred. Miss Storen's successors as president have been: Miss Isabelle Duffey, Miss Margaret G. O'Brien, Miss Isabelle Duffey, second term. Miss Hennessey's successors as recording secretary have been: Miss Elizabeth Corcoran, Miss Maude Cavanagh, Mrs. Katherine Moley.

KING'S DAUGHTERS.

The Faithful Workers' Circle of King's Daughters was organized in 1889. For a time the circle was affiliated with the national organization; but local needs impelled it to withdraw, and it has since maintained an inde-

pendent existence. The work of the circle not only includes help to individuals, but aid is extended to such institutions as the Children's Home, Young Women's Christian Association, Farm School, Winnebago County Home for the Aged, and the City Hospital, in which a room is maintained.

As the city has grown, and the needs for charity have multiplied, the membership has been increased from time to time, until the present limit is thirty. Vacancies are filled from a waiting list, a daughter or near relative of a member, however, being given preference. The officers of the circle are: Mrs. T. J. Derwent, president; Mrs. C. R. Mower, vice-president; Mrs. W. C. Pool, secretary and treasurer.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

Rockford Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution was organized October 23, 1894, with twelve members, as follows: Mrs. H. N. Baker, Mrs. Horace Brown, Miss Harriet Blake-man, Mrs. Carrie Spafford Brett, Mrs. Luther Derwent, Mrs. Ralph Emerson, Mrs. Albert D. Early, Mrs. Byron Graham, Mrs. William E. Hinchliff, Mrs. William Lathrop, Mrs. Abby Warren Spafford and Mrs. William A. Talcott. Four of this number are living: Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Derwent, Mrs. Hinchliff and Mrs. Talcott. The chapter has 185 members, including seventeen life members. The chapter has been served by the following regents: Mrs. Ralph Emerson, 1894-1897; Mrs. Horace W. Taylor, 1897-1899; Mrs. George Woodruff, 1899-1901; Mrs. Good-year A. Sanford, 1901-1902; Mrs. Carrie S. Brett, 1902-1905; Mrs. Luther Derwent, 1905-1908; Mrs. William R. Franklin, 1908-1910; Mrs. William N. Taylor, 1910-1913; Mrs. William Walton, May, 1913, to January 13, 1915; Mrs. Charles H. Godfrey, January 13, 1915, to May 24, 1915; Mrs. William A. Talcott, May, 1915, to May, 1916, when Mrs. Ella Giddings Root was chosen. There have been two "real daughters" connected with the chapter: Mrs. Mary Ann Harmon Meredith, died August 10, 1911, aged ninety-six years; Mrs. Malinda J. Roberts, died February 15, 1912.

Rockford chapter has expended for benevolent purposes, to date, \$2,720.85. It has placed memorial tablets and markers in honor of several Revolutionary soldiers, given four large flags to the Temperance Guards, Farm School,

Young Women's Christian Association and Children's Home, and 4,000 small flags to school children in the county.

In the summer of 1915 a nucleus was formed for a historical museum, and two cases have been placed in a room in Memorial Hall.

Two state conferences have been held in Rockford: the third, June 6, 1899, and the sixteenth, October 16, 1912. Mrs. William A. Talcott was state regent from 1899 to 1901. Miss Anna C. Butler is now registrar of the local chapter.

OUTLOOK CLUB.

The Outlook Club was organized in the autumn of 1892. Its original name was the Columbian, suggested by the great exposition in Chicago. When this name ceased to have special significance the club was re-christened the Outlook. Mrs. Caroline A. Brazee was the leader for many years, but for some time members have led in turn. Its work has been of high standard throughout its entire history. Mrs. Charles A. Church is president and Mrs. Daniel Lichty is recording secretary.

The Advance Club was formed for the purpose of keeping in touch with missionary activities throughout the world, and is composed of women from several churches. Mrs. Elizabeth Baume is president.

The Mothers' Study Club has been successfully maintained for more than ten years and aims to give instruction in the care of children.

The Hearth Club is composed of residents of North Town.

THE BURNS CLUB.

The Burns Club is the oldest social club in Rockford. It was organized November 5, 1858, with thirty-six members, of whom D. S. Doig is the only survivor. The original officers were: William McGregor, president; John Belford, vice-president; D. S. Doig, secretary; John Mason, treasurer. The immediate purpose of the club was the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns. This event was celebrated January 25, 1859, in the Holland House, which had been recently completed. For fifty-seven years this club has annually observed the birthday of its illustrious patron saint. Walter S. Belford is now president and Duncan Bennett secretary.

GERMANIA GESANG VEREIN.

The Germania Gesang Verein was organized January 31, 1866, with twenty-five charter members. The only survivor is F. Kees, a retired banker of Omaha, Neb. Meetings were held for some years in Metropolitan Hall. Germania Hall, a valuable property on South Madison street, was formally dedicated January 8, 1891. Addresses were made by Mayor Sherratt, Hon. J. Stanley Browne, Hon. E. W. Blaisdell, all of Rockford, and Mayor Nieman, of Freeport. The Germania celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its organization January 31, 1916. The Frauenbund is a woman's organization allied with the Germania.

THE ROUND TABLE.

Two of the earliest literary clubs of the city have ceased to exist; yet they have a place in the history of the city by reason of the prominence of their members. One of these is the Round Table, which was organized in 1872 with seven members: Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Talcott, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Woodbury, Miss Clara Goodall, Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Woodbury. The membership at one time was about fifty. The meetings were always held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Talcott, and were of a private nature. Invitations to membership were extended by the host and Mrs. Talcott. It was under the auspices of the Round Table that several distinguished speakers visited the city. Among these were A. Bronson Alcott, Dr. John H. Barrows, Dr. Washington Gladden, Dr. H. W. Thomas, Dr. C. H. Richards, Prof. David Swing and President W. R. Harper, of the University of Chicago.

The second society to discontinue high-grade literary work was the Argonauts, which was organized in 1878. Bi-monthly meetings were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Emerson. As a branch of the Woman's Union Missionary Society it contributed liberally to the work in India and China. The active membership was at one time about forty, with an honorary list of seventy-five.

UNITY CLUB.

The Unity Club is one of the oldest in the city that has maintained a continuous existence. It was organized in 1884 and incorporated in

1888. The membership is largely, although not exclusively, composed of attendants at the Church of the Christian Union. The club has pursued a wide range of study, making excursions into the domains of history, science, literature, philosophy and religion. Two sections are now maintained, book review and dramatic. An Emerson section was popular for some years. Many notable people have been heard in Rockford under the auspices of the Unity Club. Among these were John Fiske, who delivered a lecture on Alexander Hamilton; Ernest Crosby, Elbert Hubbard, Raymond Robins, Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, Rabbi Stolz, Prof. Hudson, author of "Law of Psychic Phenomena," Arthur Ruhl, European war correspondent of Collier's, and Helen Kellar. Dr. R. G. W. Kinder is now president of the club.

SVEA SONER SOCIETY.

The Germans and the Scotch were not the only foreign-born citizens to perpetuate the traditions of the mother country in social clubs. The Svea Soner Society, composed of Swedish-Americans, was organized January 23, 1890. The first president, A. G. Larson, held the office more than a score of years. He is now succeeded by Gustav H. Erikson. Of the original membership only four are still identified with the society. They are E. A. Normau, A. G. Larson, Peter Swenson and C. O. Lindell. Svea Hall, on the corner of Third avenue and Seventh street, was dedicated in 1893. Joseph Westenberg is now treasurer of the society.

COMMERCIAL CLUB.

The memory of the old Commercial Club has a historic interest, although it maintained a brief existence. It was organized January 7, 1891, and included in its membership many of the leading business men of the city. The first officers were: O. P. Trahern, president; T. D. Reber, vice-president; Paul Schuster, secretary and treasurer. The Butterworth home, on the site of Memorial Hall, was fitted up as a club house, and was a popular institution for some years.

ARTS AND CRAFTS SOCIETY.

The Arts and Crafts Society was organized April 7, 1905, at the home of Mrs. Elizabeth

Hatch, with five members: Miss Frances Walker, Miss Louise Conant, Miss Grace Brautingham, Mrs. Elizabeth Hatch, Mrs. R. K. Welsh. The object of the society was to promote handicraft. The membership, although never large, was moved by a desire to stimulate interest in fine and useful arts.

The first exhibit was held in a room in the Ashton block, December 6-7, 1905, and later exhibits were given. In 1908 the society was granted the use of a stone cottage on North Main street by the owner, Ralph Emerson. This cottage was razed in October, 1911, and meetings were held during the winter at the homes of members. In 1912-1913 a room in the public library served as a meeting place. In the summer of 1913 the Arts and Crafts Society rented the Gregory place on North Second road for a summer colony, and conducted classes in out-door sketching and woodcraft. In 1914 the rooms over the Orpheum at 118 North Main street were used for similar purposes and for exhibits.

ROCKFORD ART ASSOCIATION.

The Rockford Art Association effected a temporary organization at the city hall February 15, 1913; a permanent organization was completed March 25, with the following officers: F. F. Wormwood, president; Rev. N. B. Clinch, first vice-president; Rev. T. B. Thompson, second vice-president; Mrs. Norman E. Catlin, recording secretary; Mrs. H. H. Hamilton, corresponding secretary; Mrs. D. M. Keith, treasurer; Miss Anna Coy, gallery director.

The first exhibit of pictures was opened at the gallery, 114 West State street, February 2, 1913, and continued two weeks. Through the courtesy of Mrs. D. M. Keith and Mrs. E. P. Lathrop the association was able to secure a valuable collection of pictures from New York. By the generosity of Ralph Emerson the association became the owner of two large canvases: "Old Covered Bridge," a winter scene, by Elmer Schofield, and "Beech Woods," by J. E. Bundy. The second exhibit opened March 15 of the same year, with pictures from the Artists' Guild of Chicago. The collection contained paintings and etchings of prominent artists of Chicago and northern Illinois. The third exhibit was held from April 1 to 12, 1913. During the first two exhibits more than 10,000 people visited the



FREDERICK MUTIMER

gallery. Exhibits and lectures were given in 1914 and 1915. The association attained a membership of nearly six hundred.

The Rockford Art Guild is the result of an amalgamation of the Arts and Crafts Society and the Art Association, which was effected October 30, 1915. The officers of the Art Association were retained as officers of the Guild, and officers of the Arts and Crafts Society were made members of the board of directors of the new club. Popular interest in the guild is maintained by lectures and exhibits. Membership is of three kinds, active, sustaining and family, each with its own separate annual dues.

UNIVERSITY CLUB.

The University Club of Rockford was formed at a meeting in the Nelson House ordinary, held on November 26, 1911. The following officers were elected: President, G. C. Purdy; vice-president, Dr. W. H. Fitch; secretary, W. S. Hays; treasurer, R. M. Gibboney. These men, together with C. P. Briggs, Harry F. Forbes, Harry Severson, E. M. St. John, and Rev. R. B. Davidson, constituted the first board of directors. It was largely through the efforts of W. S. Hays, the first secretary, that the club was organized, and he did an immense amount of work. The membership has shown a steady growth and now numbers about 180 men, including college and university men of all ages. The annual meeting of the club is held in December and monthly meetings are held during the year. The club has a weekly luncheon, gives an annual dinner and has an annual field day. Its annual holiday dance has established itself as the leading society event of the year. Speakers of note are brought to the city from time to time. The present officers are: President, William D. Knight; vice-president, B. B. Early; secretary, Frank A. Welsh; treasurer, George C. Spafford. The directors are William D. Knight, B. B. Early, Frank A. Welsh, Roy H. Brown, Dr. W. H. Fitch, George P. Gallaher, J. C. Holderness, Carl A. Smith and Norman F. Thompson, Jr.

SINGERS' AND PLAYERS' CLUB.

The Singers' and Players' Club was organized in February, 1915. The nucleus of the club was the participants in a comic opera, "The Girl

and the Governor," given January 27-28, 1915. The membership has been enlarged by invitation, but is limited. The club produced the old opera "Pinafore," in October, 1915. Dr. R. C. Bourland was the first president and J. C. Holderness, secretary and treasurer.

THE WALTONIANS.

Rockford's first outing club was the Waltonians. In March, 1865, a small party went to Twin Lakes on a fishing expedition. At that season of the year it was necessary to cut through the ice. In the following August an organization was effected with the following members: A. H. H. Perkins, John P. Manny, John R. Porter, W. G. Ferguson, D. D. Alling, C. I. Horsman, S. W. Stone, E. H. Griggs, H. D. Frost, A. Paxon, G. D. Palmer, G. M. Smith, H. Chandler, I. N. Cunningham and Elias Cosper. The club was named the Waltonians, in honor of Izaak Walton. About 1868 the Waltonian excursions began to be the social feature of the summer months, and for more than a quarter of a century Twin Lakes were the Mecca of Rockford pleasure seekers. A club house was erected in 1885.

The Niposinks, another old outing club, was a contemporary of the Waltonians.

ROCKFORD COUNTRY CLUB.

Rockford Country Club, one of the oldest golf organizations in Illinois outside of the Chicago district, was organized in 1900, when William A. Talcott bought a tract north of the city on Rock River, renting it to the club and giving an option to take title to it at the original purchase price at the end of ten years. The option was exercised and a few additional acres acquired. The club now owns 100 acres, with probably a mile of frontage on the river. A new club house was erected in 1915 costing \$25,000. The club owns a valuable property.

The course was originally of nine holes, laid out by Herbert Tweedie. It is now an eighteen hole course and is called one of the best in the Middle West, having an attractive combination of flat and rolling ground, well trapped and bunkered. The new links were mapped by Tom Bendelow. Water from Rock River is supplied to all the putting greens.

The active membership is 250 and there are as

many associate members, composed of women, and a few junior members. Each active member holds a certificate of stock based on the value of the property. John H. Sherratt, former mayor, was the first president. Fred L. Tritle has been president for five years. The club belongs to the Western Golf Association and the Central Golf Association.

Public golf links were established at Sinnissippi Park in 1912. The course is of nine holes, in a slightly location. Sinnissippi Park Golf Club uses the public links. It is a member of the Western Golf Association.

The Motor Club has had a phenomenal growth, due to the rapid increase in the number of automobile owners. It was organized January 25, 1910, with forty-five members. C. J. Lundberg was the first president, and the office is now filled by J. Edwin Armstrong. E. Arthur Anderson served as secretary six years, and has recently been succeeded by Cyril F. Bollman. There are now 500 members. A club house is under construction on a beautiful site six miles below Rockford on the "river road."

The Nature Study Club combines recreation and instruction in outings during the summer and indoor sessions in the winter.

There are more than a score of other clubs devoted to recreation out of doors. Among these are the Motorcycle Club, Gun Club, Soangetaha, and several canoe, boating, athletic and golf clubs.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

FRATERNITIES AND TRADE UNIONS.

ROCKFORD FRIENDLY TO FRATERNITIES—ODD FELLOWS—FREEMASONS—MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA—ELKS—KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE—VIKINGS—KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—BROTHERHOOD OF AMERICAN YEOMEN—ROYAL NEIGHBORS OF AMERICA—UNITED WORKMEN—MODERN BROTHERHOOD OF AMERICA—COURT OF HONOR—GUARDIANS OF LIBERTY—FORESTERS—LOYAL AMERICANS—KNIGHTS OF THE MACCABEES—LADIES OF THE MACCABEES—LADIES

OF THE MODERN MACCABEES—EAGLES—ORDER OF SCOTTISH CLANS—NATIONAL PROTECTIVE LEGION—NATIONAL UNION—NORTH AMERICAN UNION—HOMESTEADERS—SONS OF ST. GEORGE—NORTH STAR BENEFIT ASSOCIATION—DANISH SISTERHOOD—UNITED COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS OF AMERICA—MYSTIC WORKERS OF THE WORLD—CONTINENTAL BENEFIT ASSOCIATION—DANISH BROTHERHOOD—KNIGHTS AND LADIES OF HONOR—YEOMEN OF AMERICA—I. O. M. A.—OWLS—ROYAL ARCANUM—INDEPENDENT ORDER OF SVITHIOD—KNIGHTS OF DANIEL—GOOD TEMPLARS—WOODMEN OF THE WORLD—TRIBE OF BEN HUR—TRADE UNIONS—UNION LABEL LEAGUE—UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS—INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS—JOURNEYMEN BARBERS' INTERNATIONAL—TYPOGRAPHICAL—PAINTERS, PAPER HANGERS AND DECORATORS OF AMERICA—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS—POST OFFICE CLERKS—AMALGAMATED AND BUTCHERS' WORKMEN—PLUMBERS'—IRON MOULDERS'—BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS—BRICKLAYERS' AND MASONS'—SHEET METAL WORKERS—ROCKFORD MUSICIANS'—TEAMSTERS'—GARMENT WORKERS'—CO-OPERATIVE PLASTERERS' AND CEMENT FINISHERS'—LATHERS'—CIGAR-MAKERS'—ICEMEN'S—BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL—PRESSMEN'S—CABINETMAKERS' AND MILL WORKERS—STAGE EMPLOYEES' UNION—ALL AFFILIATED WITH ROCKFORD CENTRAL LABOR UNION.

There are forty-four secret orders in Rockford, which are represented by nearly one hundred independent lodges. They serve many purposes. Some provide life insurance and sick benefits, while all promote fraternal relations and a real democracy. Some of these orders, by reason of age, numerical strength or other cause, require brief historical sketches. The greater number can only be mentioned; but it is believed none have been omitted.

ODD FELLOWS.

The first fraternity to enter the field was the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The charter of Winnebago Lodge No. 31, was issued by George W. Woodward, grand master of Illinois, in 1847, to the following named charter members: Selden M. Bronson, Ansel Kenfield, Dewitt Clinton Briggs, Frederick H. Maxwell, and Rev. Nathaniel P. Heath. The lodge was instituted August 11, 1847. The place

of meeting was Horsman's block, on the West side. Theodore W. Van De Mark has been financial secretary seventeen years, and L. M. Billett has been treasurer for the same period. The membership is 175.

Social Lodge, No. 140, Odd Fellows, was instituted February 6, 1854. The lodge owns its own hall on North Third street.

Kent Lodge No. 689, was instituted November 16, 1881, with the following as charter members: Wilson D. Staplin, John R. Freek, O. E. Hammond, William F. Rewoldt, O. B. Shores, S. A. Austin, J. H. Carson, J. T. Savage, William R. Forbes, Joseph Needles, J. W. Warfield, George Wilson. Membership December 1, 1915 was 350.

Tegner Lodge No. 799, was organized by Swedish-American citizens, and holds its meetings in its hall at 702 Seventh street.

The dispensation for Rockford Encampment, No. 44, was granted August 5, 1857, to the following patriarchs as charter members: James Fleming, J. H. Clark, Hugh Strickland, Enos C. Clark, G. A. Stiles, Joseph Schloss, and Robert Smith. The encampment was instituted by Deputy Grand Patriarch A. E. Jenner, August 26, 1857. The membership January 1, 1916, is 107.

Concordia Encampment No. 195, was instituted February 27, 1904. Anton A. Stenholm was the first chief patriarch, with Victor Danielson, scribe. C. G. Rosengren is chief patriarch for 1916; Frank A. Lind, scribe. The membership is 105.

There are four lodges of Daughters of Rebekah: Anchor Lodge, No. 84, Rockford Lodge, No. 31, Rock River Lodge, No. 635, instituted December 9, 1905, and now the largest in the city; and Temple Rebekah, No. 789, instituted February 5, 1916, with 74 charter members. Canton Eureka, No. 6, is a military organization. Several citizens of Rockford have been honored by state encampments. Mrs. Mae E. Crowell, a member of Rock River Lodge, was elected vice-president of the Rebekah state assembly in 1908; advanced to the presidency in 1909; elected secretary in 1914, and re-elected in 1915. Mark Jardine, former mayor of Rockford, was elected grand patriarch at the grand encampment held in Springfield in 1915. Two other Rockford citizens have held this office: The late J. S. Ticknor and D. C. Stocking. The late John Lake served as grand master.

FREE MASONS.

The Masonic fraternity leads all others in the number of its local organizations, which includes Knights Templar and Shriners. The oldest is Rockford Lodge, No. 102, which was organized February 13, 1851, under a dispensation from C. G. Y. Taylor, the grand master. The following named citizens constituted its first membership: Alfred E. Ames, William Lyman, Henry Carpenter, C. H. Spafford, William Hulin, E. H. Baker, Ansel Kenfield, John Fraley, James P. Burns, W. F. Ward, Jesse Blim, and Buel G. Wheeler. E. H. Baker was the last survivor of this original membership.

Star in the East Lodge No. 166, was organized February 12, 1855, under a dispensation from James L. Anderson, grand master. The charter members were: E. F. W. Ellis, R. H. Cotton, W. M. Bowdoin, William Hulin, S. G. Chellis, Jos. K. Smith, Joseph Burns, C. I. Horseman, B. G. Wheeler, G. W. Reynolds, John A. Holland, C. H. Richings, D. G. Clark, Adam McClure, Holder Brownell. The membership December 3, 1915, was 630.

E. F. W. Ellis Lodge No. 633, was organized December 10, 1868, and is named in honor of Colonel Ellis, who was killed at the battle of Shiloh, in the Civil war.

Winnebago Chapter No. 24, R. A. M., was organized December 12, 1854, under a dispensation from Louis Watson, grand high priest. The following constituted its first membership: A. Clark, Chauncy Ray, W. F. Parrish, H. Miltimore, John A. Holland, L. P. Pettibone, R. H. Cotton, Abiram Morgan, G. D. Palmer, and Ansel Kenfield. This chapter was constituted under another charter in December, 1855. Its present membership is 400.

Crusader Commandery No. 17, Knights Templar, was instituted November 6, 1865, with eighteen members. William T. Smithett was the first eminent commander. The office is now held by Walter P. Hizer; Thomas Ferguson is recorder. The membership is 260. The annual conclave is held on the second Monday in June.

There are two chapters of the order of Eastern Star: Rockford Chapter, No. 53, with a membership of nearly 500, and Forest City Chapter, No. 590.

Tebala Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, has a membership of 1,300. John T. Buckbee is serving his fourth term as

illustrious potentate; Frank L. Eby is recorder. Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Tebala Temple was chartered July 25, 1894, and instituted October 18, 1894, with 128 members.

Oriental Shrine No. 5, White Shrine of Jerusalem, was organized July 2, 1904, and has a membership of nearly 400. Ceremonial sessions are held the first Thursdays in January, April, July and October. Mrs. Clara M. Savage is worthy scribe.

The Masonic Relief Association of Winnebago County has headquarters in Rockford. It was organized April 17, 1895. Rockford Council No. 30, Royal and Select Masters meets the first Wednesday of each month.

Rockford Masonic Temple, on North Main street, was completed in February, 1916. The cornerstone of Tebala Mosque, the northern part of the building, was laid September 4, 1914, and the Mosque was formally dedicated May 17, 1916. This building is owned by the Shriners. The southern part, or Masonic Temple proper, was erected by the Rockford Masonic Temple Building Association, composed of Star in the East Lodge No. 166; Winnebago Chapter No. 24, R. A. M.; and Crusader Commandery No. 17, Knights Templar. The cornerstone of the Masonic Temple was laid August 22, 1914, and the building was formally dedicated March 6, 1916. The structure cost \$65,000, exclusive of site and furnishings. Besides the lodges above mentioned, the Temple will be occupied by Rockford Council No. 30, Royal and Select Masters; Rockford Chapter No. 55, Order Eastern Star, and Oriental Chapter No. 5, White Shrine of Jerusalem.

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA.

The growth of the Modern Woodmen of America has been phenomenal in Rockford, and there is a membership of 2,365 in the three camps, according to latest reports. Fraternal insurance at moderate expense is the distinctive feature of the order.

Forest City Camp No. 49, was instituted August 15, 1884, and is the oldest in Winnebago County. The first consul was W. R. McDannell, and J. L. Winnie was the first clerk. The present consul is James O'Brien, and Thomas H. McCann is clerk. The membership January 1, 1916, was 251.

Rockford Camp No. 51, was organized September 4, 1884. Up to July 1, 1915, the camp had paid \$416,621.95 into the Modern Woodman treasury; and the head camp in return had paid \$523,031.95 in benefits on the 246 members who had passed away. Camp 51 was for years the largest in the order, with a maximum membership of 1900 in round numbers. The recent rate war affected the entire order. The membership of Camp 51, according to the last published report, was 1,534.

Riverside Camp No. 20 received its charter September 30, 1885, with eighteen members, five of whom still retain membership: E. W. Andrews, W. C. Murtfeldt, Aaron Sanders, J. M. Southgate and Mahlon Case. S. H. Herrick was the first consul. E. W. Andrews was clerk from 1885 to 1905; J. A. Alden, from 1906 to 1912; Aug. Swenson, 1913 to date. B. J. Feldeen is now consul. There are 580 members.

ELKS.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks surpasses all other fraternal organizations of the city in its social life. The charter for the original lodge was granted in 1887, but was returned in a short time to the grand lodge. The lodge was re-organized December 30, 1901, and now has a membership of 800, made up of representative citizens from all walks of life. The following members have served as exalted ruler: David Turkenkoph, C. W. Ferguson, R. K. Welsh, R. S. Chapman, E. H. Keeler, Frank D. Keeler, Fred A. Schlick, Harry L. Whipple, W. T. Robertson, A. Philip Smith, Thomas D. Reber, Carl A. Ross, Frederick Haines, Charles J. Sowle, Alfred J. Holtz, Bruce H. Garrett, and H. B. North, the incumbent. There have been three secretaries: Fred A. Schlick, Charles J. Sowle, Frank E. Humeston.

The Elks have a beautiful club house which was erected and furnished, including site, at a cost of \$105,000. Work on the building was begun in September, 1910, and completed in January, 1912. The club house was formally dedicated in January, 1913. A bronze tablet has been placed in the main corridor, in recognition of the services of the building committee, which consisted of Thomas D. Reber, Frederick Haines, Harry L. Whipple, R. S. Chapman, C. F. Henry, D. J. Stewart and George D. Roper.



Augustus Nelson

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

There are two lodges of the Knights of Pythias, with a combined membership of 361. Arthur-Guinevere Lodge No. 31 is the result of a consolidation. Arthur Lodge No. 31 was instituted June 19, 1872, with twenty members. Guinevere Lodge was instituted January 29, 1891, with sixty-six members. The consolidation of Arthur and Guinevere lodges was effected June 30, 1897. W. E. Kelley is keeper of records and secretary. There are 115 members.

John Nelson Lodge was instituted April 22, 1892, with thirty-seven members. Fitch C. Cook, of Peoria, grand chancellor, was in charge, assisted by the vice-grand chancellor, Dr. E. C. Dunn, of Rockford. The lodge has 236 members. Sanford Chinquist is keeper of records and secretary. Two sessions of the grand lodge of the state have been held in Rockford: October 18, 1892, and October 15, 1912. Dr. A. F. Comings, formerly of Rockford, now of Seattle, Wash., was chosen grand chancellor of the state in 1898.

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE.

Rockford Lodge Loyal Order of Moose No. 163, is the largest fraternal order in the city, and this position was attained in an unusually short period. The lodge was organized October 9, 1909, with fifty-seven members. Its growth during the early years was slow, and disbandment seemed likely for a time. An aggressive campaign during the first half of 1915 turned the tide and resulted in increasing the membership to 1,500. Under this momentum a Moose temple was projected. The corner-stone was laid August 21, 1915. Arthur H. Jones, of Chicago, past supreme dictator and attorney-general of the order, gave the principal address. The temple was completed in January, 1916, and formally dedicated April 10, of the same year. Oscar Holmquist was the first dictator. Thomas D. Tullock now holds the position, with Charles O. Patterson as secretary. The membership is not confined to Rockford.

The Independent Order of Vikings, composed, as the name suggests, of Swedish-American citizens, is represented by four lodges: Hilding lodge No. 135, Brahe lodge No. 245, Ellida lodge No. 25, which has recently conducted a membership campaign, and Elvira lodge No. 26.

Rockford Council No. 470, Knights of Columbus, a Catholic organization, is one of the largest fraternal bodies in the city. It has a fine club house on North Main street. There are also four courts of the Catholic Order of Foresters: St. James' No. 1718; St. Mary's No. 60; St. Agnes' No. 79, and St. Joseph's No. 528.

There are two homesteads of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen: Progressive No. 1231, and Monarch No. 1885. A third, the Forest City No. 1417, has been consolidated with Progressive homestead.

The Royal Neighbors of America have three camps: the Rockford No. 155, Riverside No. 1739, and Forest City No. 165.

The Ancient Order of United Workmen is one of the oldest fraternal insurance organizations. One lodge is maintained in Rockford, Forest City No. 12.

The Modern Brotherhood of America maintains two lodges: Winnebago No. 1788, and the Swedish No. 84.

The Court of Honor has three courts: Rockford No. 194, Forest City No. 230, and Social No. 821.

Nelson A. Miles Court No. 64, Guardians of Liberty, maintains the principles advocated a few years ago under the name of the American Protective Association.

The Independent Order of Foresters support three courts: the Rockford No. 3232, the Valkyran No. 3645, and Companion No. 698.

The assemblies of Loyal Americans hold regular sessions: the Rockford No. 239, and Equitable Fraternal union.

The following orders are represented by one lodge each: Knights of the Maccabees, Rockford Tent No. 34; Ladies of the Maccabees, Rockford Hive No. 134; Ladies of the Modern Maccabees, Cora A. Nichol Hive No. 963; Eagles, Aerie No. 392; Royal League, Rockford Council No. 64; Order of Scottish Clans, Clan McAlphine No. 203; National Protective Legion, Sunnyside Legion No. 3066; National Union, Mercantile Council No. 95; North American Union, Loyal Council No. 115; Homesteaders, Rockford Lodge No. 344; Sons of St. George, Forest City Lodge No. 363; North Star Benefit Association, Observatory No. 3; Danish Sisterhood, No. 55; United Commercial Travelers of America, Rockford Council No. 119; Mystic Workers of the World, Rockford Lodge No. 175; Continental Benefit Association, Rockford Lodge No. 1; Danish

Brotherhood, Odin Lodge No. 64; Knights and Ladies of Honor, L. B. Lockard Lodge No. 2139; Yeomen of America, Rockford Council No. 157; I. O. M. A., Oriental Lodge No. 49.

The Order of Owls has two nests: No. 67 and No. 1354. There are also two councils of the Royal Arcanum: Rock River No. 291 and Winnebago No. 1914; two lodges Independent Order of Svithiod; John Erickson No. 23 and Fredborg No. 17; and two tribes of the Knights of Daniel: Nos. 2 and 3.

The Independent Order of Good Templars, one of the oldest secret societies, has four lodges: Skandinavia No. 6, Linnea No. 10, Vega No. 40 and Flygia Juvenile Temple No. 1.

The Woodmen of the World support three camps and two circles: Forest City No. 14, Rockford No. 104, Rock River No. 302, Woodmen Circle Rockford Grove No. 76, and Woodmen Circle McCauley Grove No. 54.

There are two courts of the Tribe of Ben Hur, Mizpah No. 7, and Linne No. 262.

LABOR UNIONS.

Labor is thoroughly organized in Rockford. Notwithstanding this fact strikes are practically unknown. Capital is protected, and labor is respected. For some years following the passage of the law making Labor day a legal holiday, it was observed with industrial parades, floats and speech-making. This form of observance has become obsolete, and, as on Memorial day and the Fourth of July, people flock to the parks or more sequestered places for an outing. The following is a list of trade unions: Rockford Union Label League, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners No. 792, International Association Machinists No. 440, Journeymen Barbers' International Union No. 412, Rockford Typographical Union No. 213, Painters and Paper Hangers and Decorators of America Local Union No. 252, National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 245, Postoffice Clerks Local No. 79, Amalgamated Meat Cutters' and Butchers' Workmen Union No. 547, Plumbers' Union No. 57, Iron Moulders' Union No. 294, Brotherhood of Electrical Workers No. 196, Bricklayers' and Masons' Union No. 31, Sheet Metal Workers' Union No. 219, Rockford Musicians' Union No. 240, Teamsters' Union, Garment Workers' Union No. 64, Co-operative Plasterers' and Cement Finishers' Union Local

No. 382, Lathers' Union No. 114, Cigarmakers' Union No. 157, Icemen's Union No. 228, Building Trades Council, Pressmen's Union No. 168, Cabinetmakers' and Mill Workers' Union No. 1523, Stage Employes' Union No. 217.

These unions are all affiliated with the Rockford Central Labor Union, which holds two meetings each month.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

COUNTY FAIRS—AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.

EARLY INTEREST AROUSED—ORGANIZATION OF AN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—FIRST FAIR A NOTABLE SUCCESS—LAPSE OF INTEREST—WINNEBAGO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ORGANIZED IN 1856—MANY FAIRS WELL ATTENDED—DISTINGUISHED MEN ATTEND AS SPEAKERS—THE EPISODE OF JEFFERSON DAVIS IN 1875—LAST EXPOSITION HELD AT ROCKFORD IN 1902—CITY PURCHASED FAIR GROUNDS FOR PARK PURPOSES—FARM IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION—GRANGES AND OFFICIALS—AGITATION FOR IMPROVED HIGHWAYS—FOOT AND MOUTH SCOURGE.

EARLY INTEREST AROUSED.

As early as August, 1840, a committee was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws for the Winnebago County Agricultural Society. This committee deferred its report until the next March term of the county commissioners' court, in order to avail itself of the privilege of organizing the society under the statute "to incorporate agricultural societies," which was passed March 28, 1839. The act required the county commissioners to give due notice of the intention to form such society at that special term only, and precluded a legal organization in this county at an earlier date, under the provisions of the statute. The agricultural society was organized April 13, 1841. Dr. Haskell was elected president, Robert J. Cross, vice-president, George W. Lee, secretary, Charles I. Horsman, treasurer; Horace Miller, Richard Montague, P.

M. Johnson, James S. Norton, Newton Crawford, I. N. Cunningham, Jonathan Weldon, directors. An adjourned meeting was held July 5th, when President Haskell delivered an address, which has been preserved in full. Early in September a meeting of the officers was held to complete arrangements for the first cattle show. It was decided that the fair should be held annually in Rockford, alternating on the east and west sides of the river; that all the available funds of the society be distributed in premiums, and that the premiums be paid in agricultural publications. One fair was held on the site of the present postoffice.

The first exhibition was held on October 13, 1841. The stock was exhibited in the grove near the northeast corner of First and Oak streets, which was known as the Oak Openings. Cattle and horses were tied to the trees; the sheep and hogs were confined in rail pens. The display of domestic articles and garden produce was made in the hall of the Rockford House. Charles I. Horsman exhibited a squash weighing 128 pounds. There were several loads of grain in the street in front of the Rockford House.

In the afternoon of the above day, the society and visitors formed a procession, under direction of Jason Marsh, the marshal of the day, and marched to the courthouse, on the East side. Rev. Joel B. Potter offered prayer, and Dr. Goodhue delivered an address. He was eloquent in his prophecy of the future which awaited the farmers of this fertile valley. After these exercises dinner was served at the Rockford House. At half past five the committee on awards made its report. The premium list was brief. There were seven premiums offered for horses, six for cattle, four for hogs, and two for sheep; one for the best cultivated ten acres of land, one for the best twenty-five pounds of butter, one for the best cheese weighing over fifteen pounds, one for the best ten yards of flannel manufactured in the county, one for the best fifty skeins of sewing silk manufactured in the county, and one for the best ten pounds of sugar from the beet manufactured in the county. Thus was held, in a single day, the first cattle show in northern Illinois. The editor of the Rockford Pilot referred to the event in this unique specimen of primitive journalism: "The cattle show came off yesterday in good style. The day was fine, the women were fine, the pigs

were fine. The display of stock certainly exceeded our anticipations. Surely we live in a wonderful age. Mobs, miracles and morality are developing in a manner that would have bothered the brains of our forefathers. Here we are in a country that six years ago lay in the precise state in which it was moulded in the palm of the great Builder—not a tenement had ever been erected in this precinct to cover the head of a white man. Yesterday we saw a thousand people collected for the great object of improvement in the science of agriculture, and a display of domestic stock that would have been creditable to any portion of the United States. We saw silk that had been manufactured by the hands of the ladies of our place, and a variety of products that show the rapid strides that we are making toward perfection in the noble science of agriculture." This society kept up its organization and annual exhibits for some years, when it ceased to exist.

A general law for the incorporation of agricultural societies was passed by the legislature in 1855, which went into effect February 15 of that year. The second Winnebago County Agricultural Society was organized under this law February 6, 1856. The following officers were elected: H. P. Sloan, president; Horace Starkey, vice-president; Robert Ogilby, secretary; E. W. Blaisdell, Jr., corresponding secretary; Thomas Y. Kirkpatrick, recording secretary; Hiram R. Enoch, treasurer. The board of directors was composed of Robert J. Cross, Milton Kilburn, Lewis W. Owen, R. H. Saunders and Horace Miller. A constitution was adopted at this meeting. On July 5, 1856, it was voted to lease ten acres of "Horsman's pasture" for exhibits. The first fair was held in September, 1856, in a tent. On September 5, 1857, the society voted to purchase twelve acres of C. I. Horsman for \$600 per acre. Later purchases were made which increased the grounds to twenty-two acres. In 1857 Newton Crawford was elected secretary and served three years. In 1858 the Rockford City Grays held an encampment on the fair grounds. Hiram R. Enoch was elected secretary in 1860 and served one year. In 1861 Henry P. Kimball was elected secretary and served continuously twenty-two years, with the exception of 1878, when Hiram R. Enoch was chosen. Mr. Kimball was an eccentric character, and his methods of advertising made the exposition of Winnebago County the best known of any in the

country. Celebrities in the varied walks of life were invited from year to year to deliver addresses. In 1866 General John A. Logan was the oratorical attraction, and in 1867 General Stephen A. Hurlbut, of Belvidere, delivered an address. Matt Carpenter, of Wisconsin, one of the most famous United States senators of the West in his time, was the speaker in 1873.

On July 1, 1875, Secretary Kimball, under the authority of the board of directors, extended an invitation to Jefferson Davis to be present at the annual exhibition in September, and deliver an address. Mr. Kimball, in his letter of invitation, said: "As a partial compensation for your services and incidental expenses, I herewith offer you the sum of five hundred dollars. I also guarantee you a convention of forty thousand of the representatives of the industry, culture and progress of the great Northwest, who will receive you with courteous civility, unless, indeed, I have greatly misinterpreted the clemency, the hospitality and Christian magnanimity of our people." This invitation and its acceptance created such a furor in northern Illinois that Mr. Davis was compelled to withdraw his acceptance. The correspondence became a matter of national notoriety.

When Mr. Davis' promised attendance was announced, the memories of the Civil war were revived, and a protest was made to the former Confederate chieftain, giving him to understand that his presence would be an offense almost beyond toleration. In giving expression to the popular feeling the G. L. Nevius Post, G. A. R., of Rockford, was the first to move, and caused to be issued the following protest:

"Whereas, we learn with regret that Jefferson Davis has been invited by the board of directors of the Winnebago County Agricultural Society to deliver the annual address at our county fair; and, whereas, we look upon it as an insult to the loyal citizens of Winnebago County to invite the arch traitor, Jefferson Davis, to address the relatives and surviving friends of thirteen thousand men murdered at Andersonville alone by his orders;

"Resolved, That while as an organization we have nothing to do with politics, yet, as loyal citizens and former soldiers, we feel it our duty to speak in behalf of the memory of our fellow comrades, who are no longer able to speak for themselves.

"Second. That we protest against the action

of the board of directors, and pledge ourselves that we will not attend the fair, nor contribute anything toward making it a success, if the board of directors persist in bringing forward this arch traitor and coward.

"Third. That these resolutions be signed by the members of this post and published in the county papers."

The protest was signed by 126 members of the post, and a printed copy thereof forwarded to Mr. Davis, upon the receipt of which he addressed to Mr. Kimball his letter of declination.

Several distinguished speakers made addresses at the county fair during the next few years. In 1877 Governor Wade Hampton, of South Carolina, was the guest of honor. He was introduced by Hon. William Lathrop and was given a courteous hearing. Hiram R. Enoch was elected secretary in 1878, and he secured Governor Cullom, of Illinois, for the annual address. Mr. Enoch extended an invitation to Roscoe Conkling, but that gentleman was unable to come. In 1879 Mr. Kimball was again chosen secretary. He added to his laurels as an advertiser by securing General Benjamin F. Butler and Chief Justice Waite as speakers for the fair. In September, 1880, General U. S. Grant, Hon. Alfonso Taft, father of former President Taft, and Governor Cullom were guests of the agricultural society and made brief addresses. Mr. Kimball retained the secretaryship of the society until 1883. He was succeeded by his son, Frank H. Kimball, who served two years. In 1885 C. C. Jones was chosen secretary and retained the office six years. The distinguished guests of the fair management in 1890 were Mrs. Zerelda Wallace, mother of General Lew Wallace, and Governor Oglesby. S. Fletcher Weyburn was chosen secretary in 1891, and served two years. In 1893 J. B. Whitehead was chosen secretary, and served nine years. The society held no fair in 1893, on account of the Columbian Exposition in Chicago.

The last secretary was A. J. Lovejoy, who was elected in 1902. This proved to be the last year in which an exposition was held at Rockford. On April 8, 1904, the fair grounds property was sold to the city of Rockford for park purposes.

FARM IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION.

The extension work of the national department of agriculture and the state agricultural



L R North and Wife

college and experiment stations for the diffusion of a better agriculture, is represented in this county by the Winnebago County Farm Improvement Association. With 1916 it entered on its third year. It was originally organized by leading farmers of the county, with the support of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce, the latter body financing the initial steps. The association has enjoyed the services as executive officer of A. M. TenEyck, one of the earlier graduates of the Wisconsin College of Agriculture; most of his active life having been passed as a member of the agricultural college faculties in Kansas, North Dakota and Iowa, principally Kansas.

The activities of the association have been devoted to soil testing and surveys, to determining the needs and treatment required; to combatting the hog cholera, which wasteful scourge thereby has become much less prevalent; to encouraging the development in the various townships of facilities for pulverizing the local lime rock for liming the land, thus correcting acidity so as to permit growing clover and alfalfa; promoting the growing of alfalfa and sweet clover; and building of silos; to extensive variety tests in corn and oats, to determine those best suited to maximum returns in this section; to demonstrations of the best farm practice by automobile tours of all interested in seeing what a given township may do; to the practice of treating oats for smut prevention and testing corn for seed; to breeding the best varieties of corn in the improvement of local strains; to better conditions in farm leases, by the general adoption of the share system, the discontinuance of the yearly lease and building up the soil and the facilities of leased farms; to organize breeders of live stock; to organize the milk producers for the betterment of the dairy industry, the more profitable handling of dairy herds and dairy farms and the increase of condensing factories and other competitors for the milk supply of the country as a groundwork for the expansion of this interest; and numerous other duties pertaining to the enhancement of the agricultural interest. Other phases of better conditions coming into view with 1916 were community betterment; the organization of the livestock shippers for their common protection, and the advancement of the beef and hog feeding industry; and better provision in the handling of farm credits, both in

land purchase and the purchase of live stock and improved equipment for handling the farms.

The work of the association met with more or less hostility in some quarters at the outset, but with the advent of 1916 a much better state of public sentiment was visible. The local township meetings held by the association showed much larger attendance and increased interest; several towns making the annual event one for all-day sessions. The demand on the executive officer, in office consultations and telephone calls from the farms, had risen to thousands annually. Calls for consultation from other counties seeking to organize under the provisions of the government formed an important demand. The funds for the organization came in an appropriation of \$1,200 a year from the government and \$2,000 by the county board, and in memberships at a cent an acre for farmers, and patron and supporting memberships of \$5, \$10 and \$25, with some still more liberal, aggregating in all something over \$6,000. The association at the opening of 1916 had over a thousand members, being the largest in the state.

GRANGES IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY.

The following is a complete list of the state granges in Winnebago County, with the names and addresses of the master, lecturer and secretary of each grange:

Guilford Hope—Peter Ralston, Miss Elsie Marsh, Miss Georgia Marsh, all of rural route 3, Rockford. Union—Harry Whale, Miss Ethel Whale, Miss Ruby Bartholomew, all of route 10, Rockford. Harmony—F. C. Shepherd, route 3; Miss Frances Miller, Miss Alice Pickard, route 9, Rockford. Maple Grove—Frank H. Johns, Mrs. W. H. Glenny, Miss Mabel M. Smith, all route 6, Rockford. Center—Charles Higgins, route 2; Mrs. William Geddes, route 6; Mrs. David Ritchie, route 2, Rockford. Riverside—E. B. Forsaith, 534 Rockton avenue, Rockford; Mrs. H. C. Easton, G. F. Hubbard, route 1, Rockford. Centerville—Melvin C. Smith, Mrs. John E. Johnson, Russell H. Coffin, route 7, Rockford. Burritt—Frank Kasch, route 8, Rockford; Miss Garnet Maasch, route 2, Winnebago; Albert Lightfoot, route 3, Pocatonia. County Line—Charles Wright, Egan; Mrs. E. M. Leonard, Byron; Miss Edith Johnson, Winnebago. Westfield—R. W. Boom, Winnebago; Mrs. William

McGregor, Byron; J. E. Wright, Winnebago. Oak Grove—Fred Whelan, 1, Rockford; Mrs. Nellie Hamilton, 1, Rockford; M. P. Schriber, 3, Rockford. Kinuickinnick—Frank F. Moore, Miss Ethel Wilcox, Miss Anna Holmes, all Roscoe. Riverdale—Walter W. Liddle, Mrs. Carrie Keener, Mrs. L. Trueman, all Rockton. Harrisville—A. L. Lawson, Monroe Center, 1; Miss Bessie Blair, Monroe Center; Mrs. Cora Cameron, Cherry Valley. Rockland—E. L. Lobdell, Mrs. W. H. Phelps, Mrs. E. R. Keeney, all Rockton. New England—Stewart Derwent, Mrs. Zoe Derwent, E. F. Derwent, all Pecatonica. Prairie View—John Judd, Mrs. Sylvia Swartz, Miss Anna Doty, all Pecatonica. Pomona Grange—Walter Potter, master, 3 Pecatonica; Mrs. Will Glenn, lecturer; R. W. Burritt, secretary, both Rockford 6.

AGITATION FOR IMPROVED HIGHWAYS.

The reorganization of the road law of Illinois through the Tice act, with powers for dealing with the problems under larger units than the helpless township, found Winnebago County prepared to profit by the change. It had pressing problems on its hands in the entire lack of communications a large part of the year between the northwest parts of the county and the county seat; with a well defined demand for betterment of these conditions. In other parts of the county communities had borne the burden of attempts at betterment of conditions with almost hopeless results in many townships; this despite taxing themselves to the limit allowed by law.

The first fruits of joint construction of the newly selected state aid roads by state and county funds in 1915 came in two sections of concrete road, about three miles in extent, located just beyond the macadam roads of Rockford township, the latter built with the city taxes; one section being on the Trask Bridge road in Owen and Burritt townships; the other on the West State road beginning at the Winnebago township line. The seasons of 1915 and 1916 were devoted to preparation of plans and to familiarizing public opinion with the steps for bonding the county for constructing the state road system forthwith. In view of the relief of the townships from the burden of caring for those highways making severest demands on their funds, rapid headway was made in the

sentiment for building the state roads without waiting on the slow installments of the state appropriations. The question was forwarded in the general discussion by the campaign committee of the Good Roads section of the Winnebago County Farm Improvement Association; by discussions in the local granges of the county; by the Rockford Chamber of Commerce and by public meetings, preparatory to the submission of the question of bonding the county for the road building at the November election, 1916.

FOOT AND MOUTH SCOURGE.

The scourge of the foot and mouth disease which spread over the country, both east and west, late in 1914 and early 1915, causing great losses among owners of herds of beef and dairy cattle and droves of hogs, did not appear in Winnebago County till the infection elsewhere had abated to a degree that promised final escape. Late in the winter of 1915, however, an outbreak of the contagion was discovered in Burritt Township. It finally passed from one of the infected premises there to a farm in Rockford Township, being carried on the feet of a team which visited the farm of D. M. Smith in southwestern Rockford. Before it was known what had happened it had been spread through the milk supply in Rockford to a number of other places in Rockford and in Cherry Valley townships; about a dozen places altogether in the three townships being directly involved. The strict quarantine arrangements brought severe inconvenience to all parts of the county. Much business affecting both country and city was suspended for months. Breeders of live stock lost their market in other states. Strict provisions of the state and federal government were enforced rigidly, not without some remonstrance from various neighborhoods, but under compliance with the necessities of the situation. The losses repaid by the state and federal governments amounted to over \$18,000. Nine herds of cattle were infected by the spread of the contagion. All the cattle and hogs of the infected places were slaughtered and buried in quicklime. The payroll of the common labor employed in the disinfection of the premises, under the direction of the federal government, amounted to \$1,620.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

BIRDSEYE VIEW—1891-1916.

VISIT OF A NOTABLE EVANGELIST IN 1891—
BUILDING OPERATIONS IN 1892—SHORT OBIT-
UARIES—ROCKFORD CHAUTAUQUA ASSEMBLY OR-
GANIZED IN 1902—A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DR.
GEORGE W. BROWN—PRESENT POPULATION OF
ROCKFORD—A ROCKFORD WOMAN APPOINTED
HEAD OF A GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT AT WASH-
INGTON—TORNADO IN 1913—HOTELS OF TODAY—
THE NELSON—HOTEL LELAND—EAST SIDE INN—
CHICK HOUSE—HOTEL ILLINOIS—HOTEL
POOLE—HOTEL DU NORD—REXTON HOTEL—JAR-
VIS INN—NATIONAL HOTEL—WEALTH AND POPU-
LATION—THE AUTHOR'S INSPIRING VISION OF THE
FUTURE ROCKFORD.

QUARTER CENTURY 1891-1916.

The History of Rockford and Winnebago County is already considerably longer than was originally contemplated by publisher and editor; and some of the incidents of the last quarter century, which do not come under a specific chapter heading, are briefly told in a single chapter.

Rockford's first pleasure resort was Harlem Park. A company was incorporated in April, 1891, and the park was dedicated May 28. For many years the park was a popular resort, but its decline began with the development of the splendid township park system. Harlem Park is now owned by the Rockford & Interurban Railway Company.

One of the most notable events in the religious history of Rockford was the union evangelistic services conducted by Rev. B. Fay Mills, which began October 21, 1891, and closed November 2. His success recalled the days of Whitefield. So widespread was the tide of religious feeling that on one day the saloon-keepers closed their places of business as a tribute to Mr. Mills. His method was quiet and dignified, utterly devoid of the emotional appeal of the traditional evangelist.

The Brown building, a six-story office block, was also completed in 1892. It is named in

honor of the late Judge William Brown, and his heirs are the principal owners.

The year 1892 was signalized by the introduction of university extension courses, which were popular for some years. The first two courses were given by Prof. Harry Pratt Judson, now president of the University of Chicago. Other lecturers were Prof. R. G. Moulton, Prof. C. R. Henderson, and Prof. George R. Vincent, also of that university, and Phoebe T. Sutliff, president of Rockford College.

William A. Knowlton, one of the leading manufacturers on the water-power at one time, died September 17, 1892. He came to Rockford in 1853 from Freeport, and after the death of John H. Mauny, he became business agent for Mrs. Manny. Mr. Knowlton was subsequently engaged in various manufacturing enterprises, but was overtaken by financial reverses in 1891. His surviving children are Mrs. Helen Gibson and Mary and William Knowlton.

Few cities in the country were more seriously affected by the financial stringency of 1893 than was Rockford. Manufacturing was almost completely paralyzed for several years.

In 1895 Rockford lost by death its oldest two business men, with the single exception of H. H. Waldo. A. C. Burpee passed away February 25. He came to Rockford in 1856, and immediately embarked in the furniture business, which he continued nearly forty years, and in which he was successful. Harry B. Burpee, who succeeded him in business, and H. S. Burpee, cashier of the Rockford National Bank, are sons; Mrs. A. McGregor Huffman and Miss Mary Burpee are daughters.

On October 28, 1895, John R. Porter fell from a window of his storeroom on the third floor to the pavement, and died within twenty minutes. Mr. Porter embarked in the drug business in Rockford in 1859, and removed the following year to the corner of West State and South Main. For fifty-six years "Porter's corner" has been a landmark, whose exterior has undergone no perceptible change. Mr. Porter is succeeded in the management of the store by his son, H. C. Porter. Dr. John R. Porter is another son.

The city lost a landmark in the death of Worcester A. Dickerman, July 19, 1899. He came to Rockford in 1844, and embarked in the dry goods trade with his cousin, G. A. Sanford. In 1855 he became the senior member of the

banking firm of Dickerman, Wheeler & Company. After Mr. Dickerman retired from banking, he devoted his attention to insurance and from 1884 to his death he was examiner in the mercantile department of the Rockford Insurance Company. Mr. Dickerman's children are Harry W. and Katherine Dickerman.

William A. Talcott died in Jerusalem, Palestine, December 19, 1900. He and Mrs. Talcott had left Rockford the preceding June, and were making a tour of the world. Funeral services were held from the home January 26, 1901, and on the following day a public memorial was held in the Second Congregational Church. Mr. Talcott was a son of Hon. Wait Talcott, and was born September 28, 1839, in Rockton, the first white male child in that township. He became a member of the firm of Talcott, Emerson & Company in 1860, and was identified with it under its various names until he retired from active life a short time before he went abroad. Mr. Talcott was second to no citizen in his loyalty to everything that promoted the welfare of Rockford. He gave liberally to the church, charities, missions and all legitimate sports. Rockford College and Rockford Hospital were objects of his special interest. Mr. and Mrs. Talcott entertained more distinguished guests at their home than any other family in Rockford. Wait Talcott is their only surviving child.

The Rockford Chautauqua assembly was organized in 1902, and the opening address was delivered August 14 by General Fitzhugh Lee, who had been consul-general at Havana. His subject was "Peace and War in United States and Cuba." Other notable speakers of the year were Richard P. Hobson, R. M. LaFollette, Sam Jones and General John C. Black. The attendance reached its highest mark in 1903, with 90,000 admissions. The assembly was popular for a time, but was discontinued after a few years.

In the passing of Henry W. Price, May 20, 1903, Rockford suffered the loss of one of its greatest city builders. Mr. Price came to Rockford in 1858 and embarked in boot and shoe trade. In 1860 he began the manufacture of gloves, and tanned his own leather. He developed a business which extended over the entire country, and in 1885 his sales were \$600,000. In 1886 he built the Price block on South Wyman street at a cost of \$30,000. Mr. Price's

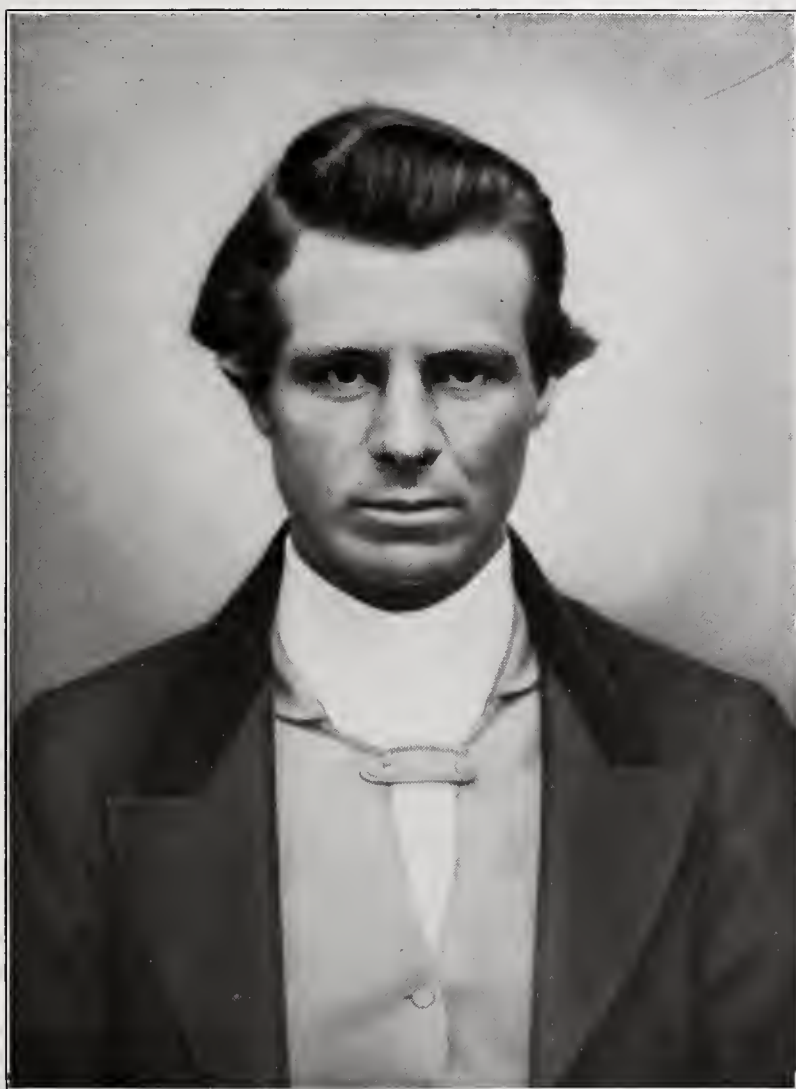
first reverses came in 1890 in heavy investments in realty in the North end, and in 1893 he was forced to make an assignment. With unconquerable spirit he renewed the struggle and recovered a part of his lost fortune. Mr. Price promoted many enterprises, all of which were for the advancement of Rockford.

Hon. Andrew Ashton, one of the commanding figures in Rockford's business life, died August 19, 1910. In 1874 and 1876, while a merchant in DuRand, he was elected a member of the General Assembly. He with a few others held the balance of power in the House, and secured the election of David Davis to the United States Senate, and indirectly his choice as acting vice-president of the United States. Mr. Ashton came to Rockford in 1878, purchased the Wallach block, and became a dry goods merchant. In 1903 he erected the six-story Ashton block, one of the finest buildings in the city. In 1890 Mr. Ashton was a Democratic candidate for Congress against R. R. Hitt, and so great was his personal popularity that he came within 500 votes of election in an overwhelmingly Republican district. Mr. Ashton was a plain, blunt, incorruptible man.

The eighteenth annual state conference of charities and corrections was held in Rockford October 11, 12, 13 and 14, 1913. Most of the sessions were held in the Second Congregational Church. On the evening of October 13 Hon. E. F. Dunne, governor of Illinois, delivered an address.

The death of Abraham E. Smith occurred January 19, 1915, at Victoria, British Columbia, where he had served as United States consul seventeen years, since his appointment by President McKinley. Mr. Smith was for many years editor of the Rockford Gazette, and postmaster of Rockford from 1875 to 1879. He had been honored with the appointment of postmaster of Woodstock, Ill., by President Lincoln, before coming to Rockford. His strong personality was felt in the many circles in which he moved. Attorney A. Philip Smith is a son.

An oil painting of Rockford's most historic character hangs in the Kansas state capitol at Topeka. It is that of Dr. George W. Brown, who died in Rockford, February 5, 1915, at the age of ninety-four years. In 1854 Dr. Brown removed from the east to Lawrence, Kansas, where he founded the "Herald of Freedom," the first free state newspaper published in Kansas.



Dorrson H. Page

His office was destroyed by outlaws, and his material thrown into a river. Dr. Brown's experience in "bleeding Kansas" was similar to that of Elijah P. Lovejoy, at Alton, Ill. He came to Rockford in 1868. As an editor Dr. Brown molded public opinion, and thus "shaped the whisper of the throne," before any newspaper man now in active service in Rockford was born. It is easy to assert the eternal verities within the quiet of one's own sanctum; but Dr. Brown was no summer soldier or sunshine patriot. He was on the firing line in the midst of battle, and, like the youthful David, defied the armies of the Philistines. He saw truth crushed to earth and went to her defense; he helped to transform the poet's vision that she shall rise again, into fact.

Early in 1912 President Taft appointed Miss Julia C. Lathrop, of Rockford, to the newly created office of chief of the Children's Bureau at Washington. Miss Lathrop is the first woman to be appointed head of a government department, and President Wilson has retained her in this important post. Miss Lathrop was born in Rockford, and is a daughter of the late Hon. William Lathrop, who represented the Rockford district in Congress from 1877 to 1879. She has served several years as a member of the Illinois State Board of Charities, and was associated with Jane Addams of Hull House.

Among the Rockford-born citizens who have achieved distinction in recent years are Prof. James H. Breasted and Prof. George E. Vincent. Prof. Breasted was born August 27, 1865. His father, Charles Breasted, was in the fifties a partner of Israel Sovereign, in the hardware business. Their store was on South Main street, where the Rockford Office and Supply Company store now stands. Prof. Breasted is known throughout the world as an orientalist and historian. He has specialized in Egyptology until he is the greatest living authority on this subject. He has been connected with the University of Chicago since 1894, and is the author of several volumes. Prof. Vincent was born March 21, 1864, while his father, Bishop John H. Vincent, was pastor of Court Street church. He specialized in sociology and from 1907-1911 he was dean of the faculties of art, literature and science at the University of Chicago. In 1911 Prof. Vincent was chosen president of the University of Minnesota and he still retains this

position. He has written two books dealing with sociological questions.

Rockford was swept by a tornado and cloud burst Tuesday, July 8, 1913. It came upon the city from the north at 3:30, amid almost total darkness. Nearly the entire city was in the path of the storm, which was the most destructive in the history of the city, and the loss was estimated at \$100,000. West State street was flooded in a few moments so that a bicycle was carried down stream; store basements were flooded, and river craft was carried over the dam. The devastation in the factory districts was severe, where smokestacks were blown down. Several buildings were unroofed, one residence in process of construction was blown down, and the spire of the First Baptist Church was thrown several feet into the yard. The parks were scenes of desolation, and fallen fruit and shade trees blocked nearly every street. Telephone and telegraph lines were put out of commission. One of the freaks of the storm was driving the end of a 2 by 8 plank through the side of a freight car. There was no direct loss of life. On the following day, however, Herbert Backus was electrocuted while attempting to dislodge a live wire that had been blown into a tree at his home.

The annual township election of 1916, held April 4, was of unusual importance. On that day a special election was held for the city of Rockford, at which there were submitted to popular vote five questions of public policy. The first was the proposed issue of city bonds, in the sum of \$95,000, for the construction of a bridge across Rock River from Chestnut street to Walnut street. This proposition was carried by a vote 4,140 to 1,845. The second question was the creation of a city court, with one judge. The vote was 3,462 for a court, and 2,395 against. The law, however, requires a two-thirds vote to carry, and thus the proposition was lost. The third and fourth questions were the annexations respectively of Evergreen Park subdivision and Letts' and Bennett's subdivision, both located in Highland. These were carried by substantial majorities. The proposed poll tax was defeated by a vote of 4,914 to 1,582. Besides these municipal issues there was also submitted the question of uniting the townships of Rockford and New Milford. Both townships voted for the consolidation. The vote in Rock-

ford was; for consolidation, 4,667; against, 1953.

Harry Marean, assessor of Rockford township for eight years, died April 6, 1916. Mr. Marean had served nearly thirty years as foreman of the Register and Register-Gazette composing room. He was first nominated for assessor by the Labor party, but he filled the position so satisfactorily that he was re-elected without regard to party alignments. The township authorities appointed his son, Hollis Marean, to complete his unexpired term.

John Barnes, the president of the W. F. & John Barnes Company, died May 29, 1916. He was born in Mt. Morris, N. Y., August 13, 1833, and came to Rockford in 1856. In 1872 Mr. Barnes and his brother, W. Fletcher Barnes, founded the company which bears their name. Mr. Barnes was an ideal citizen, whose passing is a real loss to the community. He was devoted to his church, the Second Congregational, and the architectural beauty of its house of worship was largely due to him. As president of the board of trustees of Rockford College he was a tower of strength, and the new dormitory, said to be the finest for any woman's college in the world, is named in his honor.

HOTELS OF TO-DAY.

The building operations of 1892 included the completion of the Nelson Hotel, one of the most completely equipped and ably conducted hotels in the West. The company was incorporated in 1889 with the following officers: O. A. Richardson, president; William Nelson, vice-president; Charles S. Brantingham, secretary and treasurer. Plans have been made for an addition of eight stories, which will give The Nelson a total capacity of 325 rooms. The managers have been Harry L. Rockfield, J. M. Sherman, A. J. Garrison, Charles S. Brantingham, John Emke, James Chappelle, five years; John Oberg, since March 9, 1903. The present officers are: Frank R. Brown, president; Charles S. Brantingham, vice-president; Antes S. Ruhl, secretary and treasurer.

The Hotel Leland was built in 1911 by Henry C. Chandler, of Rockford, who still owns the property. The hotel is leased by W. H. Gaffney, M. J. Green and C. B. Joyce, and T. T. McMahon is manager. The capacity of the hotel is sev-

enty-five rooms. It is conducted on the European plan, and there is a cafe on the first floor.

The East Side Inn is the building erected for the Young Men's Christian Association. It was remodeled for hotel purposes by F. G. Shoudy in 1911. He sold the property to Ira Webster, who was manager of the Inn for a time, and sold it to Fred L. Burr. Mr. Burr took possession March 1, 1915. The Inn has sixty rooms and a cafe is conducted in connection. The Inn occupies the site of the old Rockford House, the first hotel in Rockford.

The block known as the Chick House is the oldest in the city now used for hotel purposes. It was built in 1857 by T. D. Robertson, C. H. Spafford and R. P. Lane, and is now owned by Mrs. T. D. Robertson. September 1, 1888, Thomas Chick leased the property and has conducted a successful hotel business. The house has fifty rooms. One of Mr. Chick's predecessors was D. L. Griggs, who conducted the hotel for a time after leaving the City Hotel. The Chick House has three stories, with fifty rooms.

The building known as the Hotel Illinois was erected about twenty years ago by the late E. W. Blaisdell for office purposes. In 1908 Mr. Blaisdell's sons, George and Shelley P. Blaisdell, remodeled the building for a hotel, which was named the Illinois, and has always been managed by the owners. The building has four floors, with eighty rooms. Meals are served on the American and European plans.

The Hotel Poole, at 730 West State street, was built in 1912 by C. R. Poole, who managed it for two years as an European family hotel. The present owner is E. J. Voight, and Frank Darrow is lessee and manager. The Hotel Poole has thirty-seven rooms.

The Hotel Du Nord is located at 1233-1235 Fourteenth avenue. It was built by the late Axel Lundine in 1909, and was first known as the Monticello House. The second owner was John Walsh, of Seventh street, and he sold the property to the present owner, Carl Noren, who is now manager. The hotel has three stories, and contains about fifty rooms. It is conducted on the European plan.

The Rexton hotel, at 429 South Court street, is under the management of Edward W. Billick. It was formerly known as the Commercial, and is one of the oldest pieces of hotel property in the city.

The Jarvis Inn, on South Church street, is

under the management of R. J. Sensor. The building has been occupied as a hotel under several managements since its erection in 1887. The hotel has one hundred rooms and is conducted on the European and American plans. The building is owned by Hon. E. B. Sumner.

The National Hotel occupies the second and third stories of the Horsman block, 306-310 West State street. This block was erected in the early seventies by C. I. Horsman, for store and office purposes. The upper portion was converted into a hotel about ten years ago, and the past two years it has been conducted by Frank Winchester. The hotel has accommodations for thirty guests.

WEALTH AND POPULATION.

In 1915 the assessed value of all the property in Winnebago County was \$34,750,823. The equalized value of all the taxable property in the city of Rockford was \$21,847,043.

The population of Rockford at the beginning of 1916 is not less than 55,000. The predominant foreign element is Swedish, whose first emigrants came here in 1852. According to the census of 1910 the foreign-born Swedish population was 8,916, and 7,265 of the second generation, making a total of 16,181. The Swedish population of first and second generation, is at present not less than 20,000. The census of 1910 reported 1,067 Italians in Rockford. Today there are not less than 4,000, including foreign-born and the first generation American born. In 1910 there were 266 Scotch in Rockford and 367 in the county. The population of Winnebago County in 1910 was 63,153.

A VISION OF ROCKFORD.

The Rock River valley is one of the favored spots of the world. It is a land flowing with milk and honey. Like Mount Zion to the psalmist, it is beautiful for situation. Rockford is the commercial center of this fair region; the queen inland city of the Northwest. It is a city set upon a hill that cannot be hid. It has the elements of permanence; and if it should at no distant day contain one hundred thousand souls, it would only repeat the ratio of growth of the last quarter century. Size, however, is not the most determining factor. Babylon and Nineveh have perished, while Athens and Jerusalem still dominate the purest art and religion of the world. So Rockford will ever stand for

the culture and morality that make for greatness.

Rockford is cosmopolitan as well as metropolitan. More than a score of languages are heard upon her streets. America is the melting-pot of the world; and Rockford is doing its part in assimilating the pilgrims from other lands. A cathedral is a vision of the real and the ideal. Its walls and buttresses rest upon the sure and firm-set earth; then come the fretted arches; the painted windows through which the light pours upon processions of chanting priests and acolytes; the soul of the organ that lifts the worshipers as on wings of seraphim; the paintings of masters who have caught visions of a world unseen, so that the words of the Hebrew poet are literally true: "Strength and beauty are in thy sanctuary." A city is like a cathedral. It may absorb the virtues of all its constituent parts: the sturdy Scandinavian, with his traditions of Thor and his thunder hammer; the unconquerable spirit of the Teuton and the Anglo-Saxon; the thrift of the Scot; the warmth and mirth of the Emerald Isle; the artistic temperament that has flourished for centuries under the famed blue skies of Italy; the moral rectitude of the Puritan; and all suffused by the spirit of Him who "hath made of one blood all nations of men." These are the elements from which Rockford may develop an ideal citizenship. She has made a good beginning. She has stamped the liquor traffic with the brand of Cain and sent it forth a fugitive and a vagabond; and she may be trusted to continue the redemptive work toward a Paradise regained.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

TOWNSHIPS.

BURRITT.

NO RAILROAD IN TOWNSHIP—A FARMING COMMUNITY—NO TOWNS NOR VILLAGES—WEMPLETOWN A HAMLET AND FORMERLY THE POSTOFFICE—SETTLED FIRST IN 1837—NAMES OF PIONEERS—LOSS OF A HISTORIC CHARACTER—BIOGRAPHY OF REV. JOHN WILCOX—POPULATION.

Burritt is one of the two townships in Winnebago County which has no railroad. There are

no towns nor villages. Wempletown is a hamlet in the eastern part. A postoffice was formerly located there, but it has been superseded by the rural free delivery. There is a church in the township on section 14.

Settlements were made in this township at an early date. James Atkinson came from England in 1837. Other pioneers were: Thomas J. Atwood, Albert J. Atwood, George A. Atkinson, Edward H. Boomer, Jacob B. Conklin, William Dickinson, Jesse Herrington, Joseph Jennings, William Ludley, and Jefferson Southard.

Burritt lost a historic character in the death of Rev. John Wilcox, who passed away December 1, 1915, at his home at Wempletown. He lacked less than one week of being ninety years of age. Mr. Wilcox was born in Lanreath, Cornwall, England, December 7, 1825; came to America in 1850, and settled in Burritt Township, which was his home with the exception of one year, 1857, spent in Iowa as a pastor of a Congregational church at Iowa Falls. Mr. Wilcox was actively connected with the Congregational church in Winnebago County for more than half a century. The first Sunday after he came here he attended church and was called upon to substitute for the clergyman, who failed to arrive. Two years later he was licensed to preach for three years by a Congregational association which met at Roscoe. Prior to the expiration of that time he was ordained in Pecatonica. For more than twenty-five years Mr. Wilcox preached regularly in the Lysander schoolhouse, later known as the Watson school. All of these services were given without salary. Mr. Wilcox was for many years the government correspondent on crop conditions for Winnebago County.

The population of Burritt Township in 1910 was 581.

CHERRY VALLEY.

EARLY RECORDS NAME TOWNSHIP BUTLER PRECINCT
—FIRST SETTLEMENT IN 1835—VILLAGE PLAT
FILED IN 1849—FIRST STORE—FIRST HOTEL—
FIRST GRAIN WAREHOUSE—FIRST POSTMASTER—
FIRST RAILROAD—AN UNSOLVED MYSTERY—

CHURCHES — HIGH SCHOOL — CHERRY VALLEY
STATE BANK—APPROXIMATE POPULATION.

The township was first known on the records of Winnebago County as Butler Precinct. The name was changed to Cherry Valley upon the adoption of township organization. The land now comprising the site of the village was first settled by Joseph P. Griggs in 1835. He built a small cabin on the west side of Kishwaukee River. Mr. Griggs sold the tract to James Works, and he in turn sold it to Edwin Fitch, who laid out the village and filed the plat for record November 17, 1849. Among the early settlers following Mr. Griggs were A. C. Gleason, and two brothers, W. and S. W. Gleason. Densley Kiser came in 1836 or 1837. The first store was opened by John Waterman; the first hotel was conducted by Mr. Ingram, and called the Ingram Tavern. The first postmaster was Joseph Riddelle. The first grain warehouse was erected by Mr. Calkins, in the autumn of 1851. The Galena & Chicago Union Railroad was completed to Cherry Valley in February, 1852.

AN UNSOLVED MYSTERY.

On the night of January 24, 1879, Marshall S. Pritchard, collector for Cherry Valley Township, was murdered in Rockford. His body was found on North Main street near the cemetery. It is believed he was decoyed to the lonely spot and slain for the money he was supposed to have collected in taxes. The identity of the murderer remains a mystery to this day.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized by Rev. H. L. Martin in 1854. An edifice was erected the same year. The membership reported to the conference in 1915 was 181. Rev. C. W. Jaycox is pastor.

A Universalist Church edifice was erected in 1854, under the supervision of Rev. Simon Park. After a few years the church was abandoned and the building was occupied by a Swedish religious society. The Freewill Baptist Church was erected in 1874, at a cost of \$3,500.

Cherry Valley has a high school which maintains a three years' course.

The Cherry Valley State Bank has a capital of \$25,000, with \$1,250 reserve. W. J. Slater is president and Frank W. Howe is cashier.

Cherry Valley lodge No. 173 A. F. and A. M. was organized in 1855. Cherry Valley Chapter



Anna. E. Pepper.

No. 478 Order Eastern Star is a successful fraternity.

April 19, 1916, the question of paving State street was submitted at a regular election, and defeated by a decisive vote. The village board of trustees is against the granting of saloon licenses.

Dr. C. J. Shambaugh and Dr. C. E. Klontz are the resident physicians. There are no dentists.

The township had a population in 1910 of 1,069, including 433 in the village. Mrs. Elizabeth Kittle is postmistress.

DURAND.

ORIGINAL NAME OF TOWNSHIP CHANGED—VILLAGE OF DURAND A BUSY BUSINESS CENTER—EARLY SETTLERS—FIRST HOTEL—WAR RECORD—GRAND ARMY POST NOW DISCONTINUED—CHURCHES WELL REPRESENTED—METHODIST EPISCOPAL—CONGREGATIONAL—ROMAN CATHOLIC—LUTHERAN—LODGES—FIRST SCHOOLS LIKE IN OTHER PIONEER SECTIONS—EXCELLENT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES NOW OFFERED—STATE BANKS—PROMINENT RESIDENTS OF OTHER PLACES WENT FROM DURAND DURAND UNION LIBRARY—TWO PHYSICIANS—APPROXIMATE POPULATION.

The original name of Durand Township was Howard. The village of Durand is a business center for a considerable portion of Winnebago County lying north of Pecatonica River. The village derives its name from H. S. Durand, the first president of the Racine & Mississippi Railroad. This line later became the property of the Western Union, and is now owned by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, and the line extends to Freeport.

Among the pioneers may be mentioned L. V. Cleveland, John A. Johnson, and Frederic Sidorus, all of whom came about 1837. The location of the village at this point was the result of a compromise between various interested parties who jointly purchased the site of John F. Pettingill, Price B. Webster, and Edward Peppers. The proprietors were: John F. Pettingill, Price B. Webster, Edward Pepper, L. V. Cleveland, Solomon Webster, Duncan J. Stewart, M. C. Churchill, G. H. Sackett, John

R. Herring, William Randall and D. H. Smith. These gentlemen on November 18, 1856, conveyed their interest in trust to J. R. Herring, by whom the town was immediately laid out. Durand was for about two years the terminus of the Western Union Railroad. The growth was quite rapid during that time. John F. Pettingill erected a hotel, the Durand House, at a cost of \$13,000.

WAR RECORD.

In 1861 Samuel Whitmyer organized the Durand Guards. About seventy volunteers from the township enlisted in Company B of the Seventy-fourth. Mr. Whitmyer was first lieutenant; Timothy B. Taylor, Thomas J. Bryan and Theron R. Hurlbut were captains. The quota of the township under all calls for troops made by the president was 185 men. Post No. 323 Grand Army of the Republic was instituted July 18, 1868, with seventeen members. Henry Burrell was chosen commander. The post has been discontinued.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1837. Rev. Mr. Whitford preached the first sermon at the residence of Scott Robb. He was succeeded by Rev. Mr. McCane, who was on the circuit one year or more. A chapel was erected in 1857. The church reported to the annual conference last October a membership of 124. The pastor is Rev. A. Bauman.

A Congregational church was organized June 11, 1848, at Hill's schoolhouse, with seven members; but the field was abandoned.

The Roman Catholics began the erection of a church in 1865, which remained in an unfinished condition for several years. Rev. Father Considine is the priest of the parish.

A Lutheran church was organized about ten years ago. It is affiliated with a Norwegian synod.

LODGES.

Durand Lodge No. 302 A. F. and A. M. was instituted in October, 1858, and received its charter from the grand lodge in October, 1859. Durand Chapter No. 419 Order of the Eastern Star has a good membership.

Shawbensee Lodge No. 146 Independent Order of Odd Fellows was instituted in the village of Elton, in Lysander Township, May 11, 1864,

with seven members. H. L. Devereaux was the first noble grand. The lodge labored faithfully at this place of meeting until January 9, 1869, when by dispensation it was moved to the village of Durand for the greater convenience of its members. The Modern Woodmen and Mystic Workers also maintain organizations in Durand.

The first schools of the township, in common with all other schools of the county, were maintained largely by subscription, or tuition. They were taught in cabins, as the settlers could spare the room. Then came the primitive schoolhouse. A graded schoolhouse was erected in Durand in 1869 at a cost of \$7,000. The high school has a regular course of four years.

Durand has two state banks. The Citizens' State Bank has a paid-in capital of \$30,000, with a surplus of \$3,000. The Citizens' Bank opened a savings department June 1, 1916. A. Swinson is president, and J. F. Harris, cashier. The Durand State Bank has a capital of \$25,000, and a surplus of \$15,000. Niles Patterson is president, and Edward Nelson, cashier.

One of the citizens of Durand who has become prominent is Ellen Gates Starr, now of Chicago, who has been for many years associated with Jane Addams at Hull House. Hon. Andrew Ashton conducted a general store many years in Durand. He was residing in the village when he was elected a member of the legislature in 1874 and 1876, in the high tide of the Granger movement. Mr. Ashton removed to Rockford in 1878, purchased the bankrupt dry goods stock of George M. Smith, and embarked in business in the Wallach block, which he purchased.

The Durand Union Library was organized with 12 members, and about fifty books on April 6, 1904. At the present time there are 375 books, and a membership of 15. The dues are \$1 per year. The present officers are: President, Isabella C. Heide; vice-president, Hattie Amundsen; secretary and treasurer, Alice E. Nelson. The present librarian is Mrs. Laura Walling, who is in charge of the Bell Telephone central. The library is located in her office.

There are now two physicians practicing in Durand, Dr. J. F. Lins and Dr. C. A. Roberts. Dr. D. H. Young is the dentist of the village.

The population of Durand village in 1910 was 527. The population of the entire township was 1,114.

GUILFORD.

EARLIEST SETTLERS—LAND FERTILE AND WELL WATERED—THE BIG SPRING IN THE PRAIRIE—OTHER EARLY SETTLERS—SEVERAL PIONEERS SURVIVE—TOWNSHIP STRICTLY AGRICULTURAL—FINE TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES—TOWN HALL ON THE GUILFORD CENTER ROAD—FARMERS MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY—POPULATION.

In August, 1835, William E. Enoch, the eldest son of Henry Enoch, accompanied by two or three men from Will County, Ill., came to what is now Guilford Township on a land-prospecting tour. While out on this trip, young Enoch was taken sick and returned home. In September following, his father, Henry Enoch, and brothers Richard H. and A. I. Enoch, started out and, following the direction of William, struck Rock River at Rockford. Leaving his sons in camp Henry Enoch started out and, going north-east from there two or three miles, he struck the spring brook known as Bucklen Creek. Believing this stream came from springs, he followed it to its source, which he found in the northeast corner of section 11, town 44, range 2, now in the town of Guilford. Here, in the centre of a great prairie, he found a spring of water 25 feet in diameter, the water about 24 inches deep and coming up from numerous places in the bottom through snowwhite sand. The water was cold, and clear as crystal; the bank of the spring fringed with tall grass and bright prairie flowers. He was so charmed with the location, the great spring, the apparent fertility of the soil, and the general beauty of the surroundings, that he at once made up his mind to make it the home of himself and family. Going to a thicket of hazel and young poplar trees a few rods distant, he cut a small stake, and planting it on the bank of the spring, declared it his "claim." This spring became dry in the early 'seventies. This location was known for many years as the big spring of "Uncle Enoch" in the prairie. Mr. Enoch made this claim his permanent home until the autumn of 1856.

Other early settlers of Guilford were: Elisha A. Kirk, Thaddeus Davis, Sr., and his sons, David A., Thaddeus, Jr., and Daniel; Harry Doolittle, J. H. Kirk, Giles C. Hard, G. L. Horton, and Dr. Charles Church.

Among the oldest settlers now residing in the township are: William Mnlford, residing on the old Mnlford homestead; John R. Post, snper-visor for many years, and Hon. David Hnnter, who came with his father, James Hunter, in 1844.

Guilford Township is a strictly agricnltrual district. The Chicago & Northwestern and the Illinois Central railroads touch the southwest corner as they enter Rockford; the Belvidere and Internrban line crosses about three miles of its territory, and the Kenosha division of the Chicago & Northwestern road crosses the north-west corner. The eastern bonndary of Rockford at Highland is the Gnilford Township line. A town hall was erected about twenty years ago, the funds for which were raised by a tax levy. Its cost was about \$1,500. It is on the Gnilford Center road, five miles northeast of Rockford. The township has a prosperous farmers' mutnal insurance company.

The population of Guilford Township in 1910 was 1,298.

HARLEM.

FIRST TOWNSHIP SETTLEMENT ON BIG BOTTOM—
NAMES OF PIONEERS—THE SCOTCH SETTLEMENT
—THE GREENLEE FAMILY FOREMOST—RAPID
GROWTH IN POPULATION—FIRST PUBLIC BUILD-
ING—HISTORY OF WILLOW CREEK CHURCH—
NAMES OF CHARTER MEMBERS—NOTED PASTORS—
REV. THOMAS C. EASTON—HARLEM CONSOLI-
DATED SCHOOL—APPROXIMATE POPULATION.

The first settlement in Harlem Township was on the east side of Rock River, on what was called Big Bottom, nearly opposite the stone quarry. A man named Wattles staked out his farm into lots and streets, and called it Scipio; but even its classic name did not give it prestige. The proprietor built the only house ever completed. The stakes remained for several years, until they were plowed nnder by the owner, who could not give away his lots. Other early settlers were P. S. Doolittle, G. C. Hntchins, W. T. Magoon, Peter Mabie, and Lyman Taylor.

The village of Harlem is a small station on the Kenosha division of the Chicago & North-western railway. There is a Methodist Chnrch

some distance from the station, which is sup-plied by the Rev. J. E. DeLong, pastor of the chnrch at Roscoe. The chnrch has a member-ship of seventy-three.

THE SCOTCH SETTLEMENT.

A little section of Scotland has been literally transplanted in Harlem Township. The people are thrifty and maintain the best moral and religious traditions of their native land. The colony was given the name of Argyle, after Argyleshire, Scotland. John Greenlee was the founder of the new Argyle. He emigrated from Scotland to Ottawa, Ill., in 1836, and from there he came to Argyle the same year. He took up a claim and built a log house near the boundary line dividing Boone and Winnebago counties, and the Scotch colony is now settled on both sides of the connty line. In the spring of 1837 Mr. Greenlee brought his family from Ottawa to his new home. Thus the Greenlees were the first Scotch family to settle in this part of Winnebago County.

Hugh Reid and family, who had emigrated to Ottawa in 1837, came to Argyle in 1838. In 1839 the following families were added to the colony: George Picken, Robert Howie, Andrew Giffen, Alex. McDonald, William Fergnson, James Picken, Sr. In 1840 Argyle received the fol-lowing accessions: John Andrew, Alex. Reid, Robert Armonr and Samuel Howie. In 1841 there came Gavin Ralston, David Ralston, Wil-liam Harvey, John McEachran and John Picken. Thus at the close of 1843 there were seventeen families in the settlement.

In 1842 a log schoolhouse was erected on Robert Howie's farm, south and west of the present church. This primitive bnilding served several years for pnblc school, Sunday school and chnrch. In 1842 the following settlers came to Argyle: David Smith, James Montgomery, Peter Greenlee, William Ralston, John Caldwell, David C. Ralston, James Reid, Alex. Reid, Mrs. McNair. In 1843 the colony welcomed Peter Ralston, Alex. Ralston, Charles Picken and Lionel Henderson. The close of 1843 found thirty families in Argyle.

WILLOW CREEK CHURCH.

A Sunday school was organized in the spring of 1843. An effort was made to organize a

church the same year. No record was kept of the proceedings and no further action was taken until December, 1844, when a church was formally organized by the Rev. Mr. Norton, with fifty-one charter members, as follows:

Daniel Smith, Mrs. Smith, Flora Smith, Robert Smith, John Smith, John Andrew, Mary Andrew, John Picken, Elizabeth Ralston, Sr., Charlotte Armour, Mary McNair, John Greenlee, Ellen Greenlee, Peter Ralston, Margaret Ralston, Peter Greenlee, James Montgomery, Elizabeth Montgomery, Hugh Reid, Alex. Reid, Janet Reid, Alex. McDonald, Margaret McDonald, Andrew Giffen, Janet Giffen, Lionel Henderson, Margaret Henderson, John Caldwell, Margaret Caldwell, Ellen Ralston, Alex. Ralston, Martha Greenlee, William Ferguson, Ellen Ferguson, Robert Howie, Janet Howie, George Picken, Jean Picken, John Martin, Mrs. Martin, Robert Ralston, Mrs. Reid, David Ralston, Jr., Mary Harvey, Charles Picken, Samuel Howie, Janet Howie, David Ralston, Sr., Gavin Ralston, Jane Ralston and John Ralston.

Mr. Norton was a new-school Presbyterian clergyman, who was then supplying the Congregational Church at Roscoe. Great care was exercised in giving the proper theological bent to the infant church. Should it be old-school or new-school? The latter was discredited as not being entirely "sound," and thus on January 9, 1845, a decision was made in favor of the old school, notwithstanding the pro-slavery tendency of that branch, which the Argyle churchmen did not approve. John Greenlee, Daniel Smith and James Montgomery were installed as elders January 12th and the first sacrament was observed on the following day.

The church was supplied by its founder, Mr. Norris, thirteen months. Four ministers succeeded him as stated supplies: Rev. Mr. Tillson, Rev. Mr. Sovereign, Rev. T. L. Brackenridge and Rev. Mr. Walker, who remained three years. A brick church was erected in 1849 and occupied the following year. Rev. Mr. Eustace was the first regularly installed pastor. He remained five years and resigned September 24, 1855.

REV. THOMAS C. EASTON.

One of the most brilliant clergymen who ever preached in Winnebago County was the Rev. Thomas C. Easton. He was born in Roxburghshire, Scotland, November 12, 1835. His pas-

torate at Argyle extended from November 15, 1869, to December 9, 1872; and during that three years sixty-nine members were added to the church. Dr. Easton went from Argyle to Belvidere, where he remained until 1879. After leaving Belvidere his rise was rapid. He succeeded Rev. T. De Witt Talmage in the Tabernacle in Washington, D. C., where he remained many years. Dr. Easton, now in his eightieth year, is pastor of a church in New Jersey.

One of Dr. Easton's successors was Rev. B. E. S. Ely, who had left the practice of law to enter the ministry. Mr. Ely's pastorate extended from July 4, 1875, to April 10, 1881. The present house of worship was dedicated February 14, 1878, and is a memorial of Mr. Ely's pastorate. Rev. Francis L. Patton, of Chicago, who was the leading spirit in the trial of Prof. David Swing, and later president of Princeton University, preached the dedicatory sermon. Mr. Ely was a member of the council which tried Prof. Swing and voted for his acquittal. He was father of Rev. B. E. S. Ely, for many years pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Rockford.

Rev. James McLaughlin served as pastor from January, 1882, to September 12, 1887. The present pastor is Rev. M. L. Pearson. The Willow Creek Church is one of the wealthiest and largest rural churches in Illinois. The fiftieth anniversary of its founding was celebrated June 6 and 7, 1895. A feature of the celebration was an historical address delivered by Daniel G. Harvey.

HARLEM CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL.

The Harlem Consolidated is widely known as an ideal and fully equipped community center. A more extended reference to this institution is made in the chapter on Schools.

The population of Harlem Township in 1910 was 709.

HARRISON.

LOCATED IN EXTREME NORTH OF COUNTY—FIRST SETTLEMENT MADE IN 1835—PRESENT NAME GIVEN IN 1840—HONORABLE CIVIL WAR RECORD—



P. A. Peterson

VILLAGE A RURAL COMMUNITY—NO RAILROAD CONNECTIONS—CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH THE MAIN RELIGIOUS BODY—MODERN WOODMEN WELL REPRESENTED—APPROXIMATE POPULATION.

Harrison is one of the four extreme northern townships of Winnebago County. The first settlement was made in the fall of 1835 by a Mr. Brayton, who made a claim on section 35. In the spring of 1836, Mr. Brayton moved on his claim and commenced making a farm.

In 1840 the settlers desired to form a new precinct, and it was necessary to present a petition to the county commissioners for this purpose. At that time a majority of the settlers were Democrats, and several of the citizens who formed a group one day asked Isaac Parker to circulate a petition. He consented to do so on condition that some of his neighbors (who were Democrats) would work for him hoeing corn while he was absent, to which they readily agreed. Parker then drew up his petition, went to Rockford, where the county commissioners were in session, and had no difficulty in getting a new precinct formed, but was asked what name they should give it. Parker, who was a Whig, immediately answered, Harrison, and the name was adopted. When Parker returned and told how well he succeeded, his Democratic friends were greatly disgusted with the name. When the county was organized under township organization the name was continued.

Harrison's war record is notable. The number of enlistments was 122; number killed or died in the service, 24. It is believed this township furnished a larger number of enlistments in proportion to the number of voters than any other township in the county. Of the foregoing enlistments, twelve were in Wisconsin regiments, and a number are credited to other townships.

The village of Harrison is in the northeastern part of the township, at the junction of Sugar and Pecatonica rivers. It is a small settlement about one mile almost directly south of Shirland. It has no direct railroad facilities, and therefore has made comparatively little progress since the early days.

A Congregational Church was organized in 1892. Its membership, when last reported, was fifty-three. The church is without a regular pastor, and occasional public worship is conducted by supplies. The Modern Woodmen have

erected a hall which is used for public meetings as well as lodge purposes.

The population of the township in 1900 was 466.

LAONA.

THE NORTHWESTERN TOWNSHIP—AN AGRICULTURAL SECTION—NAMES OF EARLY SETTLERS—PATRIOTIC DURING THE CIVIL WAR—POPULATION IN TOWNSHIP IN 1910—MAIL SERVICE FROM DURAND.

Laona Township in an agricultural community, without a town, village, railroad or interurban line. It is the northwestern township of Winnebago County. Among the early settlers were Peter Johnson, Niles Patterson, William Phipps and R. Webster.

The township is credited with seventy-seven volunteers during the Civil war.

There were an even 500 people in the township in 1910.

There is no postoffice in the township. Residents receive mail by rural free delivery from the postoffice at Durand.

NEW MILFORD.

EARLIEST PIONEERS—RIB TOWN—COMING OF DR. CATLIN, REV. HIRAM FOOTE AND SILAS TYLER—THEIR MISSION TO FOUND A SEMINARY—LEE-TOWN PLATTED—NAME OF KISHWAUKEE SURVIVES—NOW A FLOURISHING VILLAGE—RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES ACTIVE—BOTH KISHWAUKEE AND NEW MILFORD VILLAGES RECEIVE MAIL BY RURAL ROUTE—NEW MILFORD POST G. A. R. DISCONTINUED—TWO CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS—APPROXIMATE POPULATION.

Prominent among the pioneers of New Milford Township were D. S. Shumway, Horace Miller and Samuel Brown. A town was started by the river at what is known as the Old Shumway place. At one time there were from thirty-five to forty frames erected there; but only a

few of them were enclosed. This fact gave the place the appropriate name of "Rib-Town."

In 1838 Dr. A. M. Catlin came from the Western Reserve in Ohio, in company with the Rev. Hiram Foote and Silas Tyler. They were of New England stock, and were part of a movement to found an institution of learning similar to the one then flourishing at Oberlin, Ohio. These missionary educational managers selected a site for their institution near the mouth of the Kishwaukee River. A large building was begun, but never completed. It remained for years as a reminder of the first attempt to found a seminary in Winnebago County.

In 1839-40 George W. Lee platted a town on the upper side of Kishwaukee River, at its junction with Rock River. Quite a town was actually built, with two stores and a blacksmith shop. Both "Rib-Town" and Mr. Lee's plat were named Kishwaukee, but the former was abandoned before George W. Lee platted the second. The latter was sometimes called Leetown, in honor of its founder.

The present hamlet of Kishwaukee is a short distance below the mouth of Kishwaukee River. The Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized May 17, 1844, with four members. They were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rothwell, William Johnson and Freeman Clothier. A house of worship was erected in 1868 and a parsonage in 1870. There are now about fifty members. The pastor is Rev. George Pegram. The church is in the Illinois Wesleyan Methodist conference, which is said to include less than a dozen churches.

New Milford village is in the eastern part of the township. The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad passes it less than a mile to the west.

There have been several attempts to organize churches in the village. The Congregationalist society built a church in 1877. This field was abandoned and the building was later used as a schoolhouse. The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized as a class about 1838. It owns property and for many years maintained its own services. The New Milford Church and the Epworth Church of Rockford now constitute one charge, under a plan arranged at the last annual conference. Rev. E. S. Nicholas, the pastor, preaches at New Milford in the morning and at Epworth in the evening. The membership of the New Milford Church is fifty-eight as reported to the last conference.

There were formerly postoffices at Kishwaukee and New Milford. These have been discontinued and mail is now delivered by rural route.

New Milford Post No. 297, Grand Army of the Republic, was instituted February 21, 1868, by Captain W. D. E. Andrus, of Rockford, with fourteen members. It has been discontinued.

There are two consolidated schools in New Milford Township which are described in the chapter on Schools.

The population of the township in 1910 was 909.

OWEN.

LOCATION—RAILROAD FACILITIES—NAMES OF EARLY SETTLERS—A VERY LOYAL SECTION DURING THE CIVIL WAR—POPULATION.

Owen is a township lying directly north of Rockford. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad passes through nearly its entire length north and south. There is a station at Latham Park. There was once a postoffice there, but it has been superseded by the rural route.

Among the early settlers may be mentioned: Patten Atwood, who went there in 1839; Mowry Brown, who first came to Rockwood in 1838; Wadleigh Favor, William Halley, Frederick M. Knapp, James B. Lee, Stephen O. Thompson, Isaac W. Seaverns.

According to the reports of Halsey G. Clark, enrollment officer for Winnebago County, Owen Township contributed 131 volunteers for service in the Civil war. The quota of the township, under the various calls for troops up to July 1, 1864, was 104. In December, 1864, when the last call was made for men by President Lincoln, the quota for Winnebago County was 398 men, of whom 27 were from Owen.

The population of the township in 1910 was 560.

PECATONICA.

TOWNSHIP SETTLED IN 1835—FIRST PIONEERS—FIRST POSTMASTER—FIRST BUSINESS ENTERPRISES—TURNPIKE ROAD CONSTRUCTED—WAR

RECORD—GRAND ARMY POST—CHURCHES—
SCHOOLS—FRATERNITIES—VILLAGE OF PECATONICA
INCORPORATED—WATER WORKS—FORMER
PECATONICA RESIDENTS PROMINENT IN CHICAGO
—BANKS—PHYSICIANS—POPULATION.

Settlements contemporaneous with Rockford were made in the several townships of Winnebago County. The township of Pecatonica was settled in 1835. On September 19, there came into the neighborhood of what is now Pecatonica Village five white people. They were Ephraim Sumner, his brother, William Sumner; their sister, Mrs. Dolly Guilford; her son, Elijah Guilford, and Thomas Hance.

The Sumners came from Darien, New York, near Buffalo. Ephraim Sumner took up a claim two miles southeast of what is now Pecatonica at Twelve Mile Grove, on the state road. Mr. Sumner built a stone house in 1842 which was used as a tavern, half way between Rockford and Freeport, and was the stopping place for the Frink and Walker line of stages. The "tavern" was in an excellent state of preservation until 1914, when it was razed. A little settlement was formed there and it was the seat of a postoffice, called Vanceborough, of which Ephraim Sumner was postmaster.

Elijah Guilford died in Rockford, April 29, 1915, nearly eighty years after he came to Winnebago County as a lad of eleven years. He was the oldest settler in the county at the time of his death. No children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Guilford, but they reared thirteen boys and girls.

The tracts now covered by the village of Pecatonica were first owned by Daniel Reed and William and Ephraim Sumner. In 1852 Thomas D. Robertson and John A. Holland, both of Rockford, purchased an individual interest in the town plat, and with Mr. Reed laid out the village. The plat was filed for record in December, 1852. During the spring of 1853 arrangements were perfected by which Mr. Robertson was to make and convey all titles to the property.

N. F. Maynard erected the first building and opened the first grocery store in July, 1852. Sullivan Daniels opened the first public hotel, called the Seward House. In September, 1853, the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad began the receipt and delivery of freight at Pecatonica station, under the superintendence of

Josiah Stevens. The first great improvement for Pecatonica was the construction of the turnpike across the bottoms, a distance of about one and a quarter miles. It was built by subscriptions at a great expense for that time, under the direction of Daniel Reed, Sr., in the autumn of 1853. The postoffice was established in the autumn of 1853, and Tracy Smith was appointed postmaster.

WAR RECORD.

In August, 1862, Governor Richard Yates commissioned Augustus W. Thompson to raise a company of volunteers. He received sixty-five men in five days, and when the enrollment had reached 110 men Mr. Thompson received a lieutenant's commission from the governor. The troops went into camp for a month, and on September 4, 1862, they were mustered in by Adjutant General Fuller, as Company B, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Every member of this company with the single exception of Alden R. Cole, of Seward, enlisted from Pecatonica Township.

After the battle of Stone River Lieutenant Thompson was promoted to the captaincy of his company. At the battle of Spring Hill the captain was shot in the right eye. The surgeon concluded he would die, and he was left on the field, but finally recovered with the loss of the eye. Captain Thompson to the day of his death kept the bullet that shot out his eye and came so near ending his life. That bullet he carried in his head for three and a half years before it was extracted. It weighed one ounce and it was flattened where it hit the frontal bone. Captain Thompson died in December, 1909.

Company B suffered its share of losses. Captain David O. Buttolph, Corporals George Rugg and Alfred Williams, and Private Hiram Billick were killed at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain.

On July 1, 1864, Lysander, as the township of Pecatonica was then called, had 256 men enrolled between the ages of twenty and forty-five years liable to military duty. Her quota up to that time demanded by the government was 159 volunteers, and that number had been furnished. The last call for troops by President Lincoln was in December, 1864. The enrollment then showed that Lysander had 229 available men to bear arms. She was asked to furnish

for this last call, twenty men and she responded with the men. That was her patriotic record, demonstrated for the preservation of the Union.

Pecatonica has the only Grand Army Post in Winnebago County, outside of Rockford. Ellis Post, No. 320, was organized in 1881, and was named in honor of Col. E. F. W. Ellis, of Rockford. Rev. C. F. Wright, who was then pastor of the Congregational Church, was the first commander. The post began with a membership of eighty, which was increased to 120. Time has so thinned the ranks that scarcely more remain than are required to maintain an organization. There are six cemeteries within the vicinity of Pecatonica, in which Union soldiers are buried.

CHURCHES.

Eight churches have been founded in Pecatonica, but this was a larger number than the village could maintain. As is so often the case, the Methodists were the first to enter the field. The Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1853, by the Rev. Barton H. Cartwright and Rev. Horatio N. Irish. The first class comprised eight persons. The society met in a grain warehouse, where all the religious assemblies convened. In 1854 a small house of worship was erected, which served the purpose of the society until 1868, when a stone church was erected at a cost of \$8,500, during the pastorate of Rev. John O. Foster. The present pastor is Rev. E. L. Thompson, who also supplies the church at Seward. The membership of the two churches reported to the annual conference in 1915 was ninety-two.

The First Congregational church was organized February 18, 1854, with a membership of six, by the Rev. Mr. Johnson. A house of worship was erected in 1855 at a cost of \$3,000, and dedicated in November of that year. The first settled pastor was Rev. Mr. Willis. In 1876 the church was remodeled at an outlay of \$2,700. On January 18, 1914, a modern house of worship costing \$10,500 was dedicated free of debt, including the pledges made on that day. Rev. John Gordon, of Rockford, preached the dedicatory sermon. The church was erected under the splendid leadership of its pastor, Rev. A. W. Hutchins. The Congregational Year Book reports the membership 117. Rev. C. E. Stebbens is pastor.

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church

was organized in 1858, by the Rev. A. Andreen, with a small membership. A house of worship was promptly erected. There is a thrifty Swedish population in and around Pecatonica, and they are loyal to the church and generous in its support.

The Catholic church was organized in 1871 with a membership of fifty. The parish has had a normal growth, and has a commodious house of worship. Rev. H. E. Ouimet is priest of the parish.

The German Evangelical Lutheran church was founded in 1874. There are now about 200 souls in the parish, under the spiritual care of Rev. A. C. Landeck. The latest accession is the Mission church, which has a small edifice.

Two churches organized in an early day have abandoned the field. The First Baptist society was organized in Rock Run, May 7, 1843, under the direction of William Stillwell, and in 1855 was removed to Pecatonica. It maintained an uncertain existence for some years, and belonged to the Rock River Association. The First Universalist church was organized August 5, 1855, with seven members. A chapel was built in 1863, and remodeled in 1875.

SCHOOLS.

The first schools of Pecatonica were conducted in private dwellings or small shacks thrown together for that purpose. Prior to the building of the public schoolhouse, there were four places where as many teachers were employed in the art of pedagogy. Two of these schools were in private homes and the other two were in unfinished shacks built by the town. This method of school facilities continued until 1862, when the first public schoolhouse was built in Pecatonica, of which J. S. Mabie was principal. Mr. Mabie afterwards became pastor of the First Baptist church of Rockford. The present school building was erected in 1894, and cost \$20,000. It is a modern brick structure, thoroughly equipped for procuring the best results. The high school offers a course of four years.

FRATERNITIES.

The first meeting of A. W. Rawson lodge of Masons No. 145, A. F. and A. M., was held in Pecatonica July 10, 1854. The Eastern Star has a prosperous lodge. Pecatonica lodge No. 173,



W. A. Peterson

Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized March 22, 1855, and it has the honor of being instituted by Grand Master William Rounsville in person.

Cherry Lodge of Rebekahs No. 402 has a representative membership. Eureka camp No. 60 of Modern Woodmen is the largest social order in Pecatonica.

The village of Pecatonica was incorporated by an act of the legislature in 1869. The bill for the incorporation of the village was introduced by Hon. Ephraim Summer, who was then a member of the house.

WATER WORKS.

Pecatonica has had several fires in its business district prior to the establishing of the present system of water supply, which took place in 1889. The cost of the plant completed was \$20,000. The large and never failing well is directly south at the foot of Main street in the valley. The water is pumped up from this well into an immense stand pipe, 100 feet high which is located on the highest point in the village. The pressure from this standpipe is sufficient to throw water through the hose over the highest church steeple. The streets are piped and the water is used for all domestic purposes, as it is of an excellent quality.

PROMINENT CHICAGO CITIZENS.

Two of Chicago's most prominent citizens formerly lived in Pecatonica. Postmaster Dan Campbell was born in Elgin, but his parents removed to Pecatonica when he was about two years old, and he resided in the village more than twenty years, and received his education in its schools. Mrs. J. E. Dailey, a resident of the village, is a sister. Judge Harry Olson, of the Chicago Municipal Court, graduated from the Pecatonica High School. He resided in the village several years, while his brother was pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church. His wife was Miss Bernice Miller of Pecatonica. The late Hon. J. C. Garver, state's attorney of Winnebago County, and judge of the circuit court, was a native of Pecatonica.

There are two banking houses in Pecatonica. The Farmers' and Merchants' Savings Bank has a capital of \$25,000, with a surplus of \$10,000. W. J. De La Mater is president, and E. S.

Hamme is cashier. The Pecatonica State Bank has a capital of \$40,000, with a surplus of \$10,000. Charles D. Knowlton is president, and J. A. Provoost, cashier.

There are two physicians now practicing in Pecatonica, Dr. C. G. Ives and Dr. H. C. Parker. Dr. C. H. Latham has been obliged to give up his practice on account of ill health. Dr. H. L. Wilcox is the only dentist.

The population of Pecatonica Township, according to the last federal census, including the village, is 1,590, of whom 1,022 are in the village. Pecatonica, in common with every foot of area in Winnebago County, has been voted "dry" territory.

ROCKFORD.

There is little history apart from that which is closely identified with the city of Rockford. A complete list of supervisors is given in another chapter. The township is the unit of the park system, which is described at length in Chapter thirty.

ROCKTON.

FIRST COUNTY SETTLEMENT HERE—STEPHEN MACK
THE PIONEER—HIS IMMEDIATE FOLLOWERS—
FIRST BUSINESS ENTERPRISES—FIRST RAILROAD
—PROVISION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—
GENERAL ELON J. FARNSWORTH—REMOVAL AND
RETURN OF HIS MONUMENT—SOLDIERS OF WAR
OF 1812 BURIED IN ROCKTON—GRAND ARMY POST
ORGANIZED IN 1867—FRATERNAL ORDERS—DE-
STRUCTIVE FIRES—TALCOTT FREE LIBRARY—
ROCKTON INCORPORATED IN 1872—TWO RESIDENT
PHYSICIANS—LARGEST POPULATION OF ANY
TOWNSHIP IN COUNTY.

The first settlement in Winnebago County was made in Rockton Township about 1829, by Stephen Mack. The life and adventures of Mr. Mack were noted in one of the early chapters of this volume. Those who next succeeded him were William Talcott and his son, Thomas B. Talcott, who made a claim July 4, 1835. These

gentlemen may be regarded as the first settlers of the village. Two other sons of William Talcott, Sylvester and Walter Henry, also settled there in 1835, and a fourth son, Wait Talcott, came in 1838.

The first store was opened by J. Ambrose and Timothy Wight in 1837. There is at Rockton more head and fall than at any other point on Rock River. A sawmill was erected in 1838, and a flouring mill in 1839, by Messrs. Talcott and Adams. The village was laid out by William Talcott in 1840, but the plat was not filed for record until May 30, 1844. The proprietors were Messrs. Talcott and Adams. The first bridge across Rock River above the mouth of Pecatonica River was built about 1845. Two bridges below the mouth of this stream were built a few years later. The first hotel was built by Jacob Hyatt, in 1839. It was a frame structure on the south side of Main street. The next hotel was the New England House, completed in 1848. The third public house, a brick building, erected by Porter Vinton, was kept by Samuel Adams, and was called the Mansion House.

The Racine & Mississippi Railroad reached Rockton October 29, 1856. E. L. Stiles was appointed agent and he retained the position until his death, a period of forty-one years. The road was later known as the Western Union and is now a part of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul system. The line connecting Rockton with Rockford was built in 1882.

The first schoolhouse in Rockton was built in 1840. The building was used jointly for educational purposes, and as a place for divine worship. The present graded school building was erected in 1851. It is a good substantial frame building, east of the railroad tracks. A large addition was erected in 1915. The high school has a course of four years.

CHURCHES.

The early history of the Rockton Baptist church is closely identified with that of the Roscoe Baptist church. The Roscoe and Rockton United Baptist church was organized in June, 1851. In 1854 the services at Roscoe were discontinued for lack of suitable accommodations. June 28, 1856, the church voted to build a house of worship at Rockton, and January 13, 1858, the building was dedicated. Rev. James Veness supplied the church until 1857,

when Rev. D. B. Purinton became pastor. The church enjoyed a rapid growth during this time, when ninety-three united in seven years. The following have been pastors since Mr. Purinton's resignation: Revs. C. T. Roe, A. L. Wilkinson, W. Whitney, James Buchanan, W. M. Robinson, A. Whitman, W. G. Evans, J. E. Hamilton, J. J. Phelps, H. L. Steele, J. C. Hart, H. Topping, Stephen Crickett, W. L. Jones, C. W. Woodruff, T. C. Pederson, C. J. Eddy.

The First Congregational church was organized in 1839 by Rev. William Adams. The first meetings for public worship were held at different residences, until about 1840, when a small temporary structure was erected. A substantial stone building was built in 1848, at a cost of about \$5,000. The society has a bell which was the gift of William Talcott. The church is now without a pastor, and has been reduced to thirty-nine members.

In 1855 Rev. Holland Richardson was sent to Rockton as a missionary, and organized a small band of Christian workers. In 1856 they were organized as a Methodist station under the pastorate of Rev. C. F. Wright. A church was erected in 1859. The present pastor is Rev. C. S. Clay.

GENERAL ELON J. FARNSWORTH.

The famous Eighth Illinois Cavalry was organized at St. Charles in September, 1861, by Colonel John F. Farnsworth, and was mustered into the United States service on the 18th of the same month. The regiment went into camp at St. Charles until October 13, when it moved to Washington, D. C.

Colonel Farnsworth had a nephew by the name of Elon, living on a farm with his father near Rockton. Elon went to Washington and enlisted in the Eighth Cavalry December 28, 1861. He became captain of Company K.

On June 28, 1863, Captain Farnsworth was promoted to brigadier-general and five days later he was killed at the battle of Gettysburg. His brigade was under command of Gen. Judson Kilpatrick. At a critical hour in the engagement Kilpatrick ordered General Farnsworth with his brigade to charge the enemy. General Farnsworth, knowing the lay of the land and the obstructions in the way over which his men would have charge—stone walls, fallen trees, boulders and broken rocks—informed General

Kilpatrick of these facts and that it would be almost impossible for his cavalry to pass over these obstructions and do effective service and if they became entangled in that death trap, as it certainly was such a trap, they would be entirely at the mercy of the enemy and literally helpless and cut to pieces. Having made this statement to his division commander the brave and loyal young brigadier added, "General, if you order me to make the charge it shall be done, but you must assume the responsibility." The charge was made and General Farnsworth was brought back dead, with five bullets in his body.

The remains were brought home in charge of an officer and a guard, and were buried in the cemetery at Rockton. A monument of white marble marks his resting place. The inscription on his monument is as follows:

"Brig. Gen. Elon J. Farnsworth fell at the Battle of Gettysburg, July 3, 1863. Aged 25 years and 11 months. Son of J. P. and Acsah Farnsworth."

Some time after the monument had been placed at the grave of General Farnsworth, the people of Beloit asked Father Farnsworth to allow his son's remains to be taken up and placed in the Beloit cemetery. The monument was actually taken down and carted to Beloit. The Grand Army men and other citizens of Rockton drew up a petition beseeching the family to let the body of General Farnsworth remain in Rockton, as he was an Illinois boy and fought in an Illinois regiment till the time of his promotion. The petition was presented by Comrade Charles C. Coons, and it prevailed. Their request was granted. The Rockton people at their own expense brought back the monument from Beloit and replaced it at the grave of the dead hero.

SOLDIERS OF THE WAR OF 1812.

There are five soldiers of the War of 1812 buried in the Rockton cemetery. They are: General W. Richardson, who died November 4, 1860; Charles Reed, who died August 25, 1863; William Talcott, who died September 2, 1864; Major Nathaniel Rugg and Warren Raymond.

Post No. 275 Grand Army of the Republic was organized August 15, 1867, with eleven members. C. G. Morgan was chosen first post commander. The post had a large membership for several

years, but time has so thinned the ranks of the veterans that they are now unable to maintain a regular post. Some of the survivors have become members of Nevius Post at Rockford. Memorial day, however, is annually observed.

Near the entrance to the gate of the cemetery is mounted a 30-pounder Parrot gun. This relic was secured from the war department, under an Act of Congress of May 22, 1896, providing for the distribution of old ordnance. Hon. R. R. Hitt, then representative in Congress, became interested in behalf of Rockton, and the gun was secured in August, 1897. It weighs 4,180 pounds and the twenty-eight inch shells, 880 pounds.

FRATERNAL ORDERS.

Rockton Lodge No. 74 A. F. and A. M. was organized January 5, 1849, with eight charter members. The first worshipful master was A. E. Ames, who became grand master of Minnesota. His immediate successors were R. Hatch, W. R. Weld, M. H. Patten, James Wright, S. Widdowson and D. L. Whitney. There is a chapter, No. 190 of Royal Arch Masons, and Starlight Chapter, No. 85, Order of the Eastern Star. The following fraternities are also organized in Rockton: Camp No. 77 of Modern Woodmen; Big Phoenix No. 168 Woodmen of the World; Camp No. 5471 Royal Neighbors; Court of Honor No. 286 and Mystic Workers.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

The Rockton water-power has had more than its share of ill fortune. The first mill doomed to destruction was the old Talcott flouring mill, which was owned and operated by Talcott & Company. This mill was sold to William Clark, but before the transfer was legally made the mill was burned to the ground. By reason of the uncertainty of the title, occasioned by this partial sale, the mill was not rebuilt for several years. Shaw & Stearns purchased the power and erected what was known as the "White mill," owned by Feakins & Champion. The loss on this property was about \$10,000, with insurance of \$5,000. This fire occurred in the spring of 1857.

The second fire occurred on the night of December 11, 1866. M. D. Keeney & Brother had built an air-dried board mill on what was called the "saw-mill site" and were doing a prosperous

business when a fire swept it away. The loss was about \$20,000, with insurance from one-half to three-quarters of this amount. The Keeney Brothers immediately purchased the Fountain & Widdowson machine and foundry property and erected a large storm dried board mill. The next mill property doomed to destruction was the Bradner Smith & Company plant on the night of February 6, 1876. The loss was estimated at \$50,000 with insurance of \$20,000. A fine mill with all modern improvements was immediately erected upon the same power.

Fire number four, which occurred on the night of March 26, 1878, destroyed the rebuilt Keeney mill. The loss was \$50,000, with an insurance of \$20,000. The mill was leased and operated by Booth, Hinman & Company of Beloit. After this fire M. D. Keeney endeavored to sell the power and a partial sale was made to Bradner, Smith & Company, but it was not consummated, and the mill was not rebuilt until the following year, when a fine plant was built and operated by M. D. Keeney & Son.

Coles & Gates' merchant flouring mills were burned on the night of April 25, 1879. The loss was \$15,000 with insurance of \$10,000. Coles & Gates were doing a good business, but by reason of some indebtedness on the property the mills were not rebuilt and the power passed into possession of Bradner Smith & Company.

On June 1, 1884, the Northwest paper mills were destroyed. The loss was \$50,000, with insurance of \$22,000. These mills were in the hands of B. B. Gates, and later passed into possession of W. T. Randall, who rebuilt the plant in 1886.

On the night of July 16, 1886, the Keeney mill burned for the third time. The loss was \$10,000, fully covered by insurance. This mill had passed into possession of Bradner Smith & Company and was leased and operated by W. T. Randall. His loss was \$5,000, largely covered by insurance.

The original home of William Talcott, which stood on the corner of Main and Bridge streets, was consumed by fire. In 1894 a fire licked up several buildings on Main street, the store of E. J. Veness, three dwelling houses, one bakery and two barns.

On Hallowe'en night, 1907, a fire started in the block in which the old New England house is located. The origin of this fire is a mystery as

yet unsolved. The fire became so fierce that at one time it threatened to wipe out the entire business portion of the town. It destroyed the buildings of eight business firms and Masonic Hall.

With the present system of water works there exists less dread of fire, especially in the business portion of the town. The water tower is sufficiently high to give ample pressure for a stream of water to be thrown over the tallest building in the fire district. The water works plant cost about \$5,000.

TALCOTT FREE LIBRARY.

The Talcott Free Library was founded in 1888. At that time W. A. Talcott announced that he and his father, Hon. Wait Talcott, would give a lot, building and furniture for a public library, as a memorial of the Talcott family, upon condition that the township would support it by a tax. This generous offer was accepted. The library was dedicated August 22, 1889. Addresses were made by W. A. Talcott and Prof. Whitney, of Beloit College, and the famous Weber Quartet, of Rockford, furnished music. Thomas B. Talcott gave a set of the Bohn Library, of 679 volumes; E. L. Stiles gave a set of the Encyclopedia Britannica, and there were several smaller gifts. The library now has more than 5,000 volumes. Mary C. Forward is the librarian.

Rockton was incorporated as a town September 10, 1872, and is governed by a board of trustees. It is on the line of the Rockford, Beloit & Janesville interurban road. Its telephone service is supplied by the Central Union and Rockford Home companies. Mrs. C. L. Stiles has been in charge of the local office of the Central for many years. There are two resident physicians: Dr. E. R. Cochran and Dr. A. B. Zwaska. The village is at present without a dentist.

The township of Rockton has the largest population of any township in Winnebago County outside of Rockford. South Beloit is a part of Beloit proper which has been built below the state line. It maintains a Catholic church and a county fair has been held there for several years. The population of the township, including the village in 1910, was 2,053. The population of the village was 841.



John Dutton



Edwige J. Petrie

ROSCOE.

EARLIEST PERMANENT SETTLER IN 1835—A POST-OFFICE ESTABLISHED TWO YEARS LATER—VILLAGE PLAT FILED FOR RECORD IN 1841—NAMED FOR A CELEBRATED ENGLISH HISTORIAN—AN AWFUL LOCAL CATASTROPHE IN 1857—FAMILY OF THE PASTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH THE VICTIMS—ROSCOE CHURCH HISTORY—A CELESTIAL VISITOR—TOWNSHIP PATRIOTIC DURING THE CIVIL WAR—PHYSICIANS—SCHOOLS—FRATERNITIES—RAILROADS—POPULATION.

On August 3, 1835, Robert J. Cross, of Coldwater, Mich., and Colonel Van Hovenburg, with a Pottawatomie Indian for a guide, came from Milwaukee into what is now the township of Roscoe. Mr. Cross bought a claim of Lavee, an employe of Stephen Mack, upon which he subsequently settled. In September of the same year Elijah H. Brown, James B. Lee and William Mead came from La Porte County, Ind. Until a postoffice was established at Beloit, the first settlers obtained their mail in Chicago. In 1837 a postoffice was established at the village of Roscoe, and R. M. P. Abell was appointed postmaster. The village was laid out under the direction of Messrs. Lelands, Jenks and Tuttle, and the plat was filed for record August 3, 1841. The township and village derived their name from William Roscoe, a celebrated English historian.

On the night of June 3, 1857, the wife and seven children of Rev. Horatio Ilsley, the pastor of the Congregational church, were killed or drowned. In building the Madison branch of the Chicago & Northwestern road an embankment had been thrown up at the crossing of Kinnickinick Creek about half a mile above the village. The culvert was too small for the volume of water and up to the afternoon of the day of the awful catastrophe, a pond two miles long, half a mile in width and from 25 to 30 feet in depth had formed above the embankment. About midnight the culvert caved in, the embankment gave way, and the water rushed down in a mighty torrent, carrying away several houses. Among these was the brick house occupied by Mr. Ilsley and his family, which toppled over and buried beneath the ruins the mother and seven children. Mr. Ilsley, who

had lost a leg, was comparatively helpless, and was carried away by the flood nearly down to Rock River, where he caught in a tree and held on until he was rescued by L. M. Richardson, who waded in and rescued him. In the Roscoe cemetery near the northeast corner the eight bodies of one family, who had not been united for some time until the day of their death, were buried in one day. Only a few hours before the catastrophe a married son came home on a visit.

Mr. Ilsley resigned the pastorate and removed from the village. A number of years later a stranger was seen in the cemetery; he spent a number of hours there in the City of Silence. On discovery it proved to be the bereaved husband and father who had returned to visit the graves of his loved ones. He was invited to preach in his former church on Sunday, which he did, the Methodist people giving up their service and going over to the Congregational church as a token of respect. After that visit Mr. Ilsley disappeared not to return again to Roscoe. He died at South Freeport, Maine, May 3, 1890, aged eighty-one years.

A Methodist class was organized by Rev. Samuel Pillsbury, in September, 1836, the month in which the class which formed the nucleus of the first church in Rockford was organized. On Nov. 18 and 19, 1837, Rev. John Clark, the presiding elder, held the first quarterly meeting in Roscoe, antedating that of Rockford. Leander S. Walker was preacher in charge, with William Goodwin as junior preacher. Roscoe belonged to a circuit of which Sycamore was the head.

The Methodist people erected their first church in Roscoe in 1848-49. It was a very substantial brick building with basement and auditorium on second floor. This building served its purpose until 1907, when it was razed and the present handsome and convenient structure was erected during the pastorate of Rev. John McMullen, at a cost of \$13,000. The membership of the church at the close of the last conference year was 120. Rev. J. E. DeLong is pastor. The churches at Roscoe and Harlem are united in one charge.

The Congregational church was organized November 28, 1843, with eighteen members. The society erected a frame house of worship, which stands to this day as a testimonial to the zeal and fidelity of those early Christian people.

Rev. Mr. Eaton, the venerable father of President Eaton, of Beloit College, was pastor for many years. Rev. Quincy L. Dowd, D. D., is the present pastor. The Congregational year book gives the membership as eighty-three.

A CELESTIAL VISITOR.

There is uncertainty about the date when Roscoe was visited by a celestial messenger in the form of an immense meteorite, weighing a number of tons, which landed in a field of oats about one and a half miles northeast of the village. That it is a genuine meteorite is beyond dispute; its composition is not of this world as seen in any rock formation. Its top is concave, proving that it came hissing hot through the heavens and in cooling left this concave surface. It is said that the great mass was so hot when it struck the earth and embedded itself that the grain was burnt for rods about the place where the meteorite fell. Relic hunters have broken off pieces of this foreign substance for private collections and public museums. This meteorite attracted much attention about the time of the World's Fair in Chicago. A committee came to Roscoe with full purpose of carting the novelty to the cars and shipping it in to the fair and placing it on exhibition. But they found to their utter amazement that the meteorite was too large to be moved in that way and they returned to Chicago greatly disappointed at their failure. The meteorite is located on a farm now owned by the Dudley Lyford estate.

Roscoe made her contribution of volunteers for service in the Civil war. Quite a number of these enlisted in the Seventy-fourth and One Hundred and Fifty-third regiments. James B. Kerr, who had been elected school commissioner in 1861, enlisted in the Seventy-fourth September 4, 1862, and became a lieutenant-colonel. He died of wounds at Atlanta, Ga., July 3, 1864. Reuben R. Shaw was the last Civil war veteran to be mustered out. He enlisted in Company A in the One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Volunteers. Mr. Shaw died in January, 1916. Another esteemed veteran was D. A. Sturtevant, who answered the final summons a short time before Mr. Shaw.

PHYSICIANS.

The first physician in Roscoe was Dr. Ames. There is a real apostolic succession in the Ransom family. Dr. Daniel Ransom was an early practitioner, and died February 29, 1871. His son, Giles P. Ransom, settled in the village in 1847, read medicine with Dr. Ames, and spent fifty years in practice in the village. Dr. Ransom served as assistant surgeon in the Second regiment of the Illinois light artillery. He died April 22, 1892. Dr. Ransom's sons, Penn and Wilmot L., chose the profession of their father. Wilmot L. conducts the Ransom Sanitarium, and is the only physician in the village. Another early-day practitioner was Dr. Luddy, who died in 1891. There is one dentist practicing in Roscoe, Dr. Ray Hardy.

SCHOOLS.

The Roscoe school building is a two-story brick edifice, occupying a commanding position on a rise of ground overlooking the village. This building was erected in 1855. It is not modern, but it is now undergoing extensive improvements to meet urgent needs. Prior to the completion of this schoolhouse, public school was conducted in the basement of the Methodist church, and before that in Reynolds' old blacksmith shop. On the day when the new building was ready for occupancy, D. C. Smith, who was the principal, arrayed his pupils in military order, and in a grand and stately manner marched them up to the new building and took possession. The high school offers a two years' course.

FRATERNITIES.

The Masons have a strong organization and a modern and commodious hall. Other fraternal bodies are: The Eastern Star, Modern Woodmen, Woodmen of the World, Home Fraternal League, and Court of Honor.

The Madison division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway passes near the village of Roscoe. The Rockford, Beloit & Jonesville inter-urban line passes through the village. Roscoe is not an incorporated village. Its citizens, however, are public-spirited, and take a lively interest in every movement that promotes the general welfare.

The population of Roscoe in 1910, township and village, was 1,100.

SEWARD.

AN AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY—NAMED FOR WILLIAM H. SEWARD—FARM LANDS HIGH IN PRICE—EARLY SETTLERS—VANCEBOROUGH OR TWELVE MILE GROVE—FIRST ELECTION—LONG TERMS OF OFFICE—WAR BOUNTIES—CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY PIONEERS IN THE RELIGIOUS FIELD—OTHER CHURCHES MAINTAINED—FIRST CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL IN STATE BUILT IN SEWARD—ONE RESIDENT PHYSICIAN—APPROXIMATE POPULATION.

Seward is the southwest township of Winnebago County, and was named in honor of William H. Seward, of New York. It is an agricultural community and up to a comparatively recent period was without a railroad station. The farm lands in the county have commanded high prices. Among the early settlers of the township were A. Bridgeland, Mrs. Sylvia Conover, Samuel Faulkner, William Fitzgerald, J. M. Hamilton, Rev. Chester Hoisington, Marcus Lowrey, Hon. Laurence McDonald, C. H. Marston, Darwin Whitney, Isaiah Highbarger, N. S. Straw, Edmund Whittlesey and A. W. Copeland.

Vanceborough, or Twelve-Mile Grove, as it was often called, was in Seward Township, just below the Pecatonica boundary line. A more extended reference to Vanceborough is made in the chapter on Pecatonica.

THE FIRST ELECTION.

H. R. Schreiver, the town clerk, has preserved an interesting relic of pioneer days. It is a polling list of the voters at an election held August 7, 1848, for congressmen, state and other officers. There were no ballots, and the method of voting was *vive voce*. The election was held in a school in Grove precinct, which included Seward Township. Sixty-four votes were cast. Ephraim Sumner, William Shimmin and David Weld were judges of election and John H. Rogers and George W. Wertz were clerks.

FIRST TOWNSHIP ELECTION.

The first election in Seward after the adoption of township organization was held April 2, 1850, with the following result: David Weld, super-

visor; John H. Rogers, town clerk; Chester Hoisington and Edmund Whittlesey, justices of the peace; Edward R. Shimmin, collector; Alfred Bridgeland, Edward R. Shimmin, constables; Asmon R. Hutchins, Richard Robinson, Malcolm Packard, commissioners of highways; Asa M. Seaton, Arnold Weld, Asmon B. Hutchins, road overseers.

LONG TERMS OF OFFICE.

Seward Township has been fortunate in the men chosen to administer her affairs. They are illustrations of Emerson's axiom that men of character are the conscience of the society to which they belong. One of these was Edmund Whittlesey, who came with his father's family to Winnebago County in 1835. The Legal Adviser of Chicago, in a biographical sketch published many years ago, said Mr. Whittlesey was the oldest justice of the peace in Illinois. His official life is summarized as follows: Justice of the peace, 45 years; assessor, 4 years; supervisor, 20½ years; township treasurer, 40 years; total, 109½ years. Dudley M. Day, who now resides in Rockford, served Seward in official capacities aggregating 78 years; 14 of which were as supervisor. Hon. Laurence McDonald, who represented this district in the legislature from 1881 to 1883, as a Democrat, was a justice of the peace 38 years, and assessor 7 years. William Neely was supervisor 10 years, and Hugh S. Smith, the present supervisor and chairman of the county board, has served consecutively since 1904.

PAID WAR BOUNTIES.

Seward Township assumed full responsibility for the payment of bounties to soldiers during the Civil war. Money was advanced by patriotic citizens, who were subsequently reimbursed from a public fund. At a special town meeting held January 28, 1865, for the purpose of voting on a tax levy for paying bounties to volunteers, the proposition was carried by a vote of 99 to 26. According to a statement of audit on February 28, 1865, claims were allowed to the amount of \$4,601.60. On March 28 following war claims were allowed at audit aggregating \$2,775.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

March 27, 1841, a meeting was held at the home of Truman Judd, in Lysander Township, which resulted in the organization of a Congregational Church. Two ministers were present, Rev. Ebenezer Brown and Rev. John Monel.

There were thirteen charter members, as follows: Truman Judd, Eliphalet Whittlesey, Joel Thompson, Mrs. Emily Thompson, Mrs. Laura Thompson, Miss Harriet Thompson, Miss Mary J. Vance, Henry Woodruff, Austin Andrews, Putnam Perley, Mrs. Calista Woodruff, Mrs. Mary E. Simpson and Mrs. Elizabeth Lewis. Rev. E. W. Hewett was called in December, 1846.

In 1850 that part of the church membership living near the Judd district petitioned the main church to be allowed letters of dismissal, that they might form another society, to be called the "Judd Settlement Church." This petition was granted and the incident was the beginning of the church at Pecatonica. The remaining portion was known as "Twelve Mile Grove Church," and a house of worship was erected. Pastors after the division were Rev. G. S. Johnson and Rev. Rufus Hatch, who was on the field from 1855 to 1857. About this time the name was changed to the Seward Congregational Church. Rev. Mr. Parry served from 1857 to 1865. A new church was erected in Seward Center in 1867-1868, during Rev. Mr. Sabin's pastorate. It was dedicated free of debt February 20, 1868. Later pastors were Revs. C. C. Adams, M. S. Hall, W. F. Cooley, G. F. Hunter, Lewis Nobis, L. H. Moses, Waldo Harris, McLean, and C. E. Trueblood. Upon the entrance of the Illinois Central Railroad into the township the village of Seward was started, and during the pastorate of Mr. Moses the church was removed to the village. It now has 123 members. The total membership from the beginning is 457. Rev. W. D. Harris died September 20, 1910.

There is a Roman Catholic Church a short distance from the village and a Methodist Church in the village which is supplied by the pastor at Pecatonica.

Seward has the credit of building the first consolidated school in Illinois. A more extended reference is made in the chapter on Schools.

Dr. Charles Martin is the resident physician.

The population of the township in 1910 was 948.

SHIRLAND.

EARLIEST SETTLERS—ONE OF THE STATE LINE TOWNSHIPS—SHIRLAND VILLAGE FORMERLY CALLED KAPOTA—VILLAGE NOT INCORPORATED—A LONG OFFICIAL RECORD—METHODIST CHURCH HOLDS THE RELIGIOUS FIELD—SHIRLAND THE SMALLEST TOWNSHIP IN COUNTY—APPROXIMATE POPULATION.

Among the early settlers of Shirland may be mentioned George Seaton and Lemuel Fisk, who came here in 1837. The township borders on the state line. The village of the same name is in the southern part of the township. It was originally called Kapota, an Indian name. The village has never been incorporated. It is on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. A town hall serves the citizens for elections and public meetings.

The postoffice has been retained in one family during practically the entire history of the village. Thomas B. Boswell was appointed October 29, 1869, and held the office until his death, eighteen years ago. He was succeeded by his son, George E. Boswell, who still retains the office. This official trust has been confided to father and son forty-eight years. The township is credited with forty-three volunteers during the Civil war.

A Congregational Church was organized in 1846. Its house of worship is one mile and a quarter north of the village. Its membership has been reduced to twenty-five and services have been discontinued. The society still maintains its legal existence. The Methodist Church now supplies the religious needs of the community. It was organized in 1847 and now has a membership of 162. Rev. H. Culbertson is pastor.

The Shirland high school has a two years' course of study. The third annual commencement exercises were held in the Town Hall June 2, 1916, when eight graduates were awarded diplomas.



Peter P. Phillip

Fraternities are represented by Modern Woodmen, Royal Neighbors and Knights of Pythias.

Shirland is the smallest township in the county with a population in 1910 of 439.

WINNEBAGO.

EARLIEST SETTLERS—THE BUCK HORN TAVERN AT WESTFIELD CORNERS—A NOTED STATION ON THE STAGE COACH LINE—TOWNSHIP'S ORIGINAL NAME LA PRAIRIE—CHANGED TO WESTFIELD—THEN TO ELIDA—LATER TO WINNEBAGO—VILLAGE LAID OUT IN 1854—FIRST POSTMASTER—FIRST TOWNSHIP SCHOOL AND FIRST TEACHER—FIRST METHODIST CLASS—FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH—THE STONE CHURCH—OTHER DENOMINATIONS—MIDDLE CREEK CHURCH—REV. J. S. BRADDOCK—FIRST HOTEL IN VILLAGE OF WINNEBAGO—ELECTRIC LIGHT IN VILLAGE—WINNEBAGO STATE BANK—FIRST SCHOOL BUILDING IN VILLAGE—WINNEBAGO WAR RECORD—A MEMORABLE PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION—THE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT—FRATERNITIES—PHYSICIANS—ALWORTH—APPROXIMATE POPULATION.

The first settler in what is now Winnebago Township was David Adams Holt, who made a claim in 1835 to section 34. Williams Holt came in 1836, and another brother, Elijah Holt, in 1837. Other pioneers of 1838-39 were Alby Briggs, and Duty, Richard L., and Horace Hudson, three brothers. Duty Hudson opened the first public house in the township, which was known as the Buck Horn Tavern, at Westfield Corners. In front of the tavern he erected two upright posts. On the center of the cross beam he placed an immense pair of buck horns or antlers, and from this sign he gave the tavern the name by which it was known from Chicago to Galena, as it was a station on the stage coach line between these cities, where a relay of horses was constantly on hand.

The original name of Winnebago Township was La Prairie. In 1836, this township was included in the precinct of Rockford, as was also Guilford, and the south half of Owen and Harlem. On July 9, 1839, the county commissioners ordered, that "all of town 26, north of range 11, east of the third principal meridian, except the

north tier of sections of said townships, together with sections 5, 6, 7 and 8 in town 43, range 1, east of the third principal meridian to be known as La Prairie."

Joseph Folsom and a number of other citizens on July 6, 1843, petitioned the county commissioners to change the name of the precinct from La Prairie to that of Westfield. A number of the pioneers came from New York and near Westfield, and as this name was dear to them they petitioned for this name. Their petition was granted and the township was called Westfield until 1849, when by some misunderstanding, and changing of township organization, the name of Elida was substituted for Westfield. This name, though given by mistake, obtained till 1855 when the citizens for the third time petitioned for a change of name. Winnebago was selected and the authorities made the desired change.

The village of Winnebago was laid out in 1854 by Duncan Ferguson, under the direction of Thomas D. Robertson, John A. Holland, John VanNortwich and J. D. Warner. The Galena & Chicago Railroad reached the village in 1853. A depot was erected in 1854. J. D. Warner was the first station agent, and he held that position twelve years. N. G. Warner built and opened the first store in 1855.

The first postoffice in the township was established at Westfield Corners, and Duty Hudson was appointed postmaster. The place is designated on later maps as Elida.

The first school in Winnebago Township was begun August 3, 1839, in a part of the log house belonging to David Adams Holt. The first teacher in this school was Miss Mary Treadwell, who some years later became the wife of Elijah Holt. Until the schoolhouse was built, school was held in the private homes of these pioneers. The teachers in most cases "boarded around." In 1844, a frame schoolhouse was built at Westfield Corners, with money raised by subscription. When the building was completed, Miss Treadwell, later Mrs. Elijah Holt, was again employed to teach the school. For her services as a teacher she was paid the munificent sum of \$2 per week and she boarded herself. She soon had forty pupils enrolled.

A Methodist class was organized at Westfield Corners in 1839. The first services were held in the homes of the pioneers and conducted by Rev. G. G. Worthington.

Preaching by the Methodist itinerants continued at intervals from 1839, and appointments became more and more regular. In 1853 Rev. Barton Hall Cartwright was appointed to the Byron circuit. He was returned in 1854, with an assistant as junior preacher, Rev. William D. Atchison. A church was built in 1854, but it was abandoned as a place of public worship many years ago.

The Congregational Church was founded in 1846. July 11 of that year eight Christian people formed a society. On July 3, 1847, Rev. James Hodges was chosen as pastor. The society continued to worship in a schoolhouse until it could build a church. The "Stone Church," as it was known for many years stood nearly midway between Westfield Corners and Winnebago village. It was located on the lot in the cemetery now occupied by the Soldiers' monument. The building seems to have been so nearly completed in October, 1854, that services were held there, though the dedication did not take place until August, 1855. On the day of dedication Rev. Samuel P. Sloan was ordained to the ministry. At the close of the ordination service, Miss Susan Margaret Grand Girard, and Rev. Samuel P. Sloan, stepped forward in front of the officiating clergyman and were united in marriage.

Mr. Sloan at once became pastor of the church and continued in that relation with his people for about fifteen years, when he was succeeded by the Rev. Henry M. Daniels. He was succeeded by Rev. Theodore A. Gardner, who was installed October 1, 1876. After the society built its new church in Winnebago village the old stone church was abandoned, and for several years was only used on funeral occasions or on memorial days. It has been torn down and not a vestige of the old church remains. When the Congregationalists completed their church at Winnebago, Rev. Mr. Milton became their pastor. Regular services have been maintained most of the intervening period. The membership has been reduced to forty-nine, and the church is now without a pastor.

The Methodist Church was founded in 1854. In that year Winnebago village was added to the Byron circuit. The basement of the church was begun in 1854, but the auditorium was not completed until 1860, during the pastorate of Rev. Milton Bourne. The present membership is fifty-four. The pastor is Rev. W. H. Evans.

The Presbyterian Church was organized August 23, 1868, with twenty-four members. A house of worship was erected in 1869, at a cost of \$4,300. The Free Methodist Church was organized with ten members May 29, 1865. The Adventists effected an organization in 1872, with forty-three members.

MIDDLE CREEK CHURCH.

The Presbyterian Church at Middle Creek was organized in June, 1855, with sixteen members. They worshiped for several years in a stone schoolhouse, and then erected a church, which was dedicated May 10, 1861, with Rev. Mr. Carson as pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. M. B. Patterson, and in turn by Rev. M. L. J. Merritt. In December, 1865, Rev. Joseph S. Braddock became pastor and served the little flock as an under-shepherd forty-two years.

REV. J. S. BRADDOCK.

Joseph S. Braddock was born of Scotch-Irish parentage in Green County, Pa., on June 27, 1817. His early education was received in West Alexander Academy and Washington College, now Washington and Jefferson. His theological education was pursued at Alleghany under private instruction. He was licensed at West Lexington Presbytery at Frankfort, Ky., in April, 1847, and ordained and installed by the Presbytery of Louisville in June, 1848. He performed the double duties of preaching and teaching from 1848 to 1857, when he purchased the female seminary at Frankfort and became principal of that institution.

In 1863 the Confederate raider, John Morgan, invaded the city and burned the institution. While at Frankfort, Mr. Braddock received the degree of A. M. from Center College at Danville. In 1860 he suffered a hemorrhage in both eyes, which permanently impaired his eyesight. After the destruction of his seminary he started north, going first to Cincinnati to consult an oculist and then in succession he visited Warsaw, Fort Wayne, Valparaiso, Chicago and Middle Creek. The latter was destined to be the home of Dr. Braddock for the rest of his active life.

As the spiritual leader of the Presbyterian congregation at Middle Creek Dr. Braddock preached 6,000 sermons, served in the capacity of superintendent or teacher at 1,600 sessions

of the Sunday school and performed 250 marriage ceremonies. In his long residence at Middle Creek he made 20,000 calls on his parishioners when they were ill or in health. In the early days of his pastorate, when the churches were widely scattered, Dr. Braddock was frequently called on to officiate at funerals miles away.

Dr. Braddock lived for the congregation of Middle Creek Church and they in turn returned the love of the pastor who was their spiritual adviser from 1865 to 1907. When Dr. Braddock announced his determination to retire from his pastorate on his ninetieth birthday, it was against the wishes of his congregation, many of whom he had baptized and married. He however realized that his years on earth were not to be long and he wished to quit the pulpit while in the possession of his mental powers, which ninety years had not dimmed.

The occasion of his retirement on June 27, 1907, was made the occasion of a celebration in which the Freeport Presbytery took part. An extended program was given, Dr. Braddock making a farewell address and pronouncing the benediction. Souvenirs containing a likeness of the honored guest and a brief sketch of his notable career were distributed.

The bond of sympathy between the pastor and his flock was exemplified in an incident which happened shortly after the death of his faithful wife. His people had gathered to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of his occupancy of the pulpit of the little country church. There was a touch of pathos and sadness in his voice which brought tears to the eyes of his flock as he said: "You people are all I have in the world. I am yours and you are mine until death at last separates us from each other, for I have neither father, mother, sister, brother, wife nor child."

There was not a dry eye in the congregation as the aged pastor, bereft of the companionship of his wife, who had been faithful to him through many changes in fortune before he took up his duties at the Middle Creek Church, spoke of his loneliness and his need of the comfort and friendship of his flock.

Dr. Braddock died April 19, 1909.

The first hotel in Winnebago was opened in the fall of 1859, and was called the Winnebago House.

THE CYCLONE OF 1851.

Winnebago Township has felt the devastation that follows in the wake of a cyclone. One of these relentless twisters swept through the town on May 31, 1851, striking it near the southwest corner, and, traveling in a northeast direction. Its course was marked by general destruction.

ELECTRIC LIGHT IN VILLAGE IN 1916.

Winnebago village enjoyed electrically lighted streets for the first time Thursday evening, February 17, 1916, when connections were completed and the current, furnished by the Interurban Company, was turned on. The subject of electricity for the village had been a matter of discussion for many years.

The Winnebago State Bank has a capital of \$25,000, with no surplus. C. P. Coolidge is president and R. S. Armstrong is cashier.

WINNEBAGO'S WAR RECORD.

On July 4, 1861, a celebration was held in Winnebago village. The chief oration of the day was delivered by Melancthon Smith, a prominent young attorney of Rockford. Col. Ellsworth, who had drilled the Rockford City Grays in 1858, aroused all the patriotic blood in Mr. Smith to fever heat when he referred to the death of the young patriot. He said: "More Colonel Ellsworths may be murdered, more Lieutenant Grebels may fall, but the war must go on." Those who heard this oration little dreamed that Mr. Smith was unconsciously prophesying his own death.

That Fourth of July celebration, and the speech of Melancthon Smith, stirred up the war fever in Winnebago to a high pitch of enthusiasm. "From that time forward the quota of the town was for the most part quickly filled, and it seemed when the Seventy-fourth Regiment was being raised, the question was not who could be sent, but who would be kept at home. Not more than nine men were hired to fill its various quotas, and these were hired almost at the close of the war." The township was not prodigal in its contributions for war purposes, but generous. The citizens raised \$3,000 to be expended for war purposes, under its own supervision, besides paying its full share of county war tax, amounting, as estimated, to \$10,000

more, making in all \$13,000. Beside this direct outlay of money, the people made large contributions to the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, of which no records were kept so as to be available to the historian.

THE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

The Winnebago Memorial Association was organized soon after the close of the Civil war. In 1868 Jno. M. Mitchell, who had been a member of Company K, Thirty-first New Jersey Infantry, came to live in Winnebago Township. In 1891 he was elected president of the memorial association.

Up to that time no lot had been set apart in the cemetery for the interment of deceased soldiers. Mr. Mitchell interested himself in this matter and determined that a lot should be secured so that no soldiers dying in Winnebago should be buried in the potter's field. He asked the trustees of the cemetery association to donate a lot. They consented to do so, and gave Mr. Mitchell the privilege of selecting the lot. He chose the lot on which the old stone church had stood, which was 60 by 100 feet. The deed was made directly to Mr. Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell entered into correspondence with the authorities at Washington to secure a couple of condemned cannon with which to decorate the soldiers' lot. He found even if the cannon were donated the expense of transportation and placing them in position would be too expensive, and so the project was abandoned. His next move was to get the town to vote \$500 towards building a soldiers' monument. In this he was successful.

After the town had voted the payment of \$580 two men, who were opposed to the transaction, declared they would apply for an injunction, prohibiting the authorities from paying over the money. Mr. Mitchell knew that the injunction would be granted on the ground that the money was to be paid for the improvement of his personal property, as the deed was in his name. He took the first train for Rockford, and had a deed made out and placed on file, deeding the property to the town of Winnebago. That act of course cut out the possibility of an injunction. A subscription was started to raise the balance of the money requisite to build the monument. The contract was let to Amasa Hutchins, of Rockford, who built the monument of Bedford stone. The cash cost of the monument was

\$800. But a large amount of labor was donated in the form of teaming and other ways. The monument stands 32 feet high. The figure of an infantryman at rest crowns the shaft. This was the first soldiers' monument erected in Winnebago County.

On August 22, 1899, the monument was unveiled and dedicated. About 300 people, most of them comrades of the war, went from Rockford. Among that number were Commander Thomas G. Lawler and Department Chaplain D. R. Lucas. The principal address was made by Hon. Robert R. Hitt.

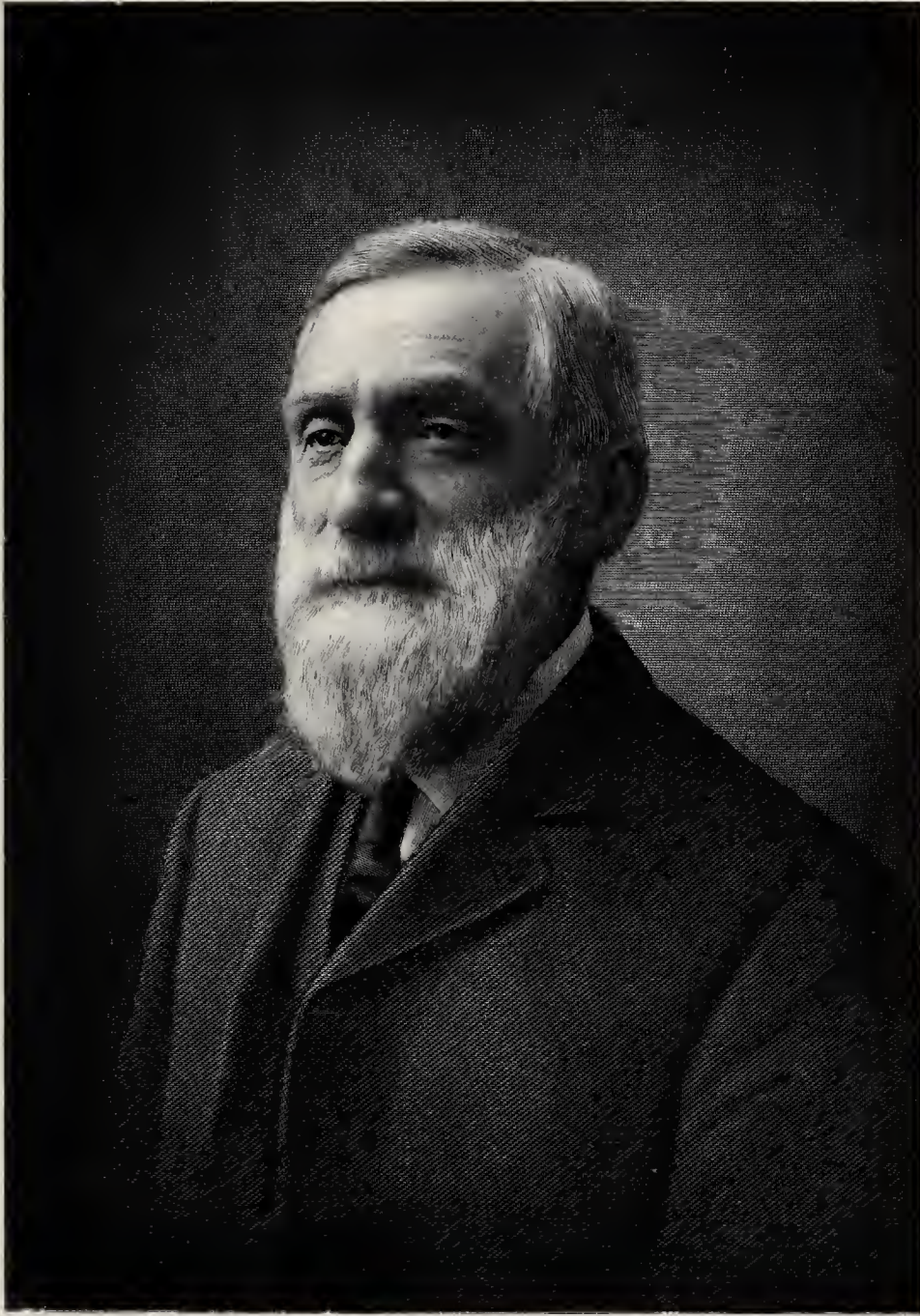
FRATERNITIES.

Winnebago Lodge No. 745 A. F. and A. M. was organized October 3, 1876, with sixteen charter members. They were: Lyman T. Corbin, John E. Wells, Wesley R. Gerhart, Stephen I. Searls, John Tanner, Ambrose K. Searls, Robert Prescott, Daniel M. Sargent, W. H. Patton, Jeremiah Jordan, Peter H. Seal, H. H. Felch, H. T. Thorne, Peter Lawrence, O. T. Holcomb and W. H. Keith. John Tanner was the first master of the lodge.

Other fraternities are: Lodge No. 444 Order of Eastern Star; American Stars of Equity, organized October 23, 1905; Mystic Workers, organized February 11, 1900; and Modern Woodmen No. 59, which is the largest of the social orders.

The first school building in the village of Winnebago was erected in 1858, at a cost of \$1,325. The principal who was in command of the school at that time was James Goddard. That building in due time was outgrown and abandoned for school purposes. It was sold and removed "down town" and converted into a blacksmith shop. The building now occupied as a graded school was built in 1868, at a cost of \$9,200. The high school furnishes a course of two years.

The first Homoeopathic physician in Winnebago was Philander Copeland. He came to Winnebago County in 1853, settling in the town of Seward. Afterward he bought a farm in the town of Byron, now known as the Hunter farm. In 1858 he came to the village of Winnebago and built a home, later occupied as a barn by Cyrus Miller. He hung out his shingle and at once began the practice of medicine. He had an extensive circuit as a physician, going west-



Pratt & Publishing Company

Life of J. G. Penfield's Life

J. G. Penfield

ward as far as Forreston, south to Leaf River and north to Durand and Harrison. Dr. Cope-land gave two boys to the Union army. Both enlisted in Company G, Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

Dr. I. O. Paul recently removed to Rockford. Dr. W. S. Howell is now practicing in Winnebago. He has been succeeded by Dr. R. W. Markley, who removed from Rockford. There are no dentists in the village.

Alworth, a station on the Illinois Central, receives its mail by rural free delivery from Winnebago. A postoffice was once established at that point, but has been discontinued.

The population of Winnebago Township in 1910 was 1,212. The population of the village was 415.

CHAPTER XL.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND SUPERVISORS.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

1836-1850.

From 1836 to 1850 Winnebago County in common with all the other counties in the state, was governed by three commissioners. The following named citizens served in that capacity during the period: Thomas B. Talcott, 1836-1841; Simon P. Doty, 1836-1837; William E. Dunbar, 1836-1842; Herman B. Potter, 1837-1838; Elijah H. Brown, 1838-1840; Ezra S. Cable, 1840-1846; William Hulin, 1841-1844; Spencer Post, 1842-1848; Samuel Cunningham, 1844-1847; John M. Hulett, 1846-1849; Richmond L. Hudson, 1847-1849; Abraham I. Enoch, 1848-1849.

SUPERVISORS BY TOWNSHIPS.

From 1850 to 1916.

Winnebago County availed itself of the provision of the constitution of 1848, and adopted township organization. Since 1850 the county has been governed by a board of supervisors. By a special act of the legislature in 1865 each ward in the city of Rockford was allowed one

supervisor on the county board. These were formerly chosen at the city election. In 1892 two changes in the law became operative. One provided for the election of assistant supervisors from the city at large, on the basis of population. This largely increased the power of the city on the board. The second change was in the election of supervisors on the day of the annual town meeting, instead of the municipal election. In continuity of service Hon. Henry Andrus heads the list. He represented Cherry Valley nineteen years, from 1879 to 1898. The following is a complete list of the supervisors of Winnebago County from 1850 to 1915:

1850.

Burritt—William Stillwell (died May 18, 1850), James Pitkin (to fill vacancy); Butler (now Cherry Valley)—Theodore S. Powell; Elida (now Winnebago)—Chauncey Ray; Guilford—Charles Works; Harlem—Alexander McAfee; Harrison—Stephen A. Knapp; Howard (now Durand)—Samuel Pillsbury; Laona—Isaac Sackett; Lysander (now Pecatonica)—Ezra S. Cable; New Milford—Volney A. Marsh; Owen—David F. Talbot; Rockford—Bela Shaw; Rockton—Sylvester Talcott; Roscoe—John J. Rhodes; Seward—David Weld (chairman); Shirland—Luman Pettibone.

1851.

Burritt—James Pitkin; Butler—James S. Gunsolas; Elida—Chauncey Ray; Guilford—George Willis Smith; Harlem—Alexander McAfee; Harrison—Stephen A. Knapp; Howard—Heman Hoit; Laona—Isaac Sackett; Lysander—Bynon J. Pengra; New Milford—Volney A. Marsh; Owen—David F. Talbot; Rockford—Bela Shaw (chairman); Rockton—Sylvester Talcott; Roscoe—John J. Rhodes; Seward—David Weld; Shirland—Luman Pettibone.

1852.

Burritt—Thomas J. Atwood; Butler—Theodore S. Powell; Elida—John P. Reynolds; Guilford—Wm. R. Forsaith; Harlem—Nathan J. Lovejoy; Harrison—Albert Morey; Howard—Price B. Webster; Laona—William Randall; Lysander—Ephraim Sumner; New Milford—

Asher Spicer; Owen—David F. Talbot; Rockford—Bela Shaw; Rockton—Sylvester Talcott (chairman); Roscoe—John J. Rhodes; Seward—David Weld; Shirland—Luman Pettibone.

1853.

Burritt—Edmund Oviatt; Butler—Theodore S. Powell; Elida—John P. Reynolds; Guilford—Abraham I. Enoch; Harlem—Nathan J. Lovejoy; Harrison—Peter C. Van Slycke; Howard—Newman Campbell; Laona—William Randall; Lysander—Ephraim Sumner; New Milford—Asher Spicer (died), William C. Grant to fill vacancy; Owen—David F. Talbot; Rockford—Bela Shaw, Hiram R. Maynard, ass't; Rockton—Sylvester Talcott (chairman); Roscoe—William C. Mathews; Seward—David Weld; Shirland—Luman Pettibone.

1854.

Burritt—Edmund Oviatt; Butler—Harris Barnum; Elida—Samuel Cunningham; Guilford—Spencer Post (chairman); Harlem—Wilbur D. Armstrong; Harrison—David Jewett; Howard—John F. Pettingill; Laona—Daniel H. Smith; Lysander—Ephraim Sumner; New Milford—Asher Spencer (died), William C. Grant (to fill vacancy); Owen—John M. Hulett; Rockford—Bela Shaw, Milton Kilburn, ass't; Rockton—Sylvester Talcott; Roscoe—John J. Rhodes; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Epaphras W. Steele.

1855.

Burritt—Edmund Oviatt; Butler, Jesse A. Gleason; Guilford—Moses W. Gleason; Harlem—Wilbur D. Armstrong; Harrison—Albert Morey; Howard—John R. Herring; Laona—Daniel H. Smith; Lysander—Barzaleel F. Corwin; New Milford—William C. Grant; Owen—John M. Hulett; Rockford—Jonathan T. Miller, Alonzo Corey, ass't; Rockton—Luman Pettibone (chairman); Roscoe—John J. Rhodes; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Lemuel Fisk; Winnebago—Samuel Cunningham.

1856.

Burritt—Edmund Oviatt; Cherry Valley—James B. Johnson; Guilford—Moses W. Gleason; Harlem—Peter Mabie; Harrison—James Hodges; Howard—John R. Herring (chairman); Laona—Daniel H. Smith; Lysander—

Ezekiel Brown; New Milford—Wm. C. Grant; Owen—David F. Talbot; Rockford—Bela Shaw, Milton Kilburn, ass't; Rockton—Luman Pettibone; Roscoe—John J. Rhodes; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Lemuel Fisk; Winnebago—Hampton P. Sloan.

1857.

Burritt—Hiram Atwood; Cherry Valley—Eli F. Roberts; Guilford—Jonathan H. Kirk; Harlem—Peter Mabie; Harrison—Stephen A. Knapp; Howard—Otis Webster; Laona—Daniel H. Smith; Lysander—Ezekiel Brown; New Milford—Wm. C. Grant; Owen—David F. Talbot (chairman); Rockford—Bela Shaw, Milton Kilburn, ass't; Rockton—Geo. H. Hollister; Roscoe—William W. Wadsworth; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Lemuel Fisk; Winnebago—Richmond L. Hndson.

1858.

Burritt—Hiram Atwood; Cherry Valley—Eli F. Roberts; Guilford—Jonathan H. Kirk; Harlem—Peter Mabie; Harrison—Geo. H. Joslin; Howard—Otis Webster; Laona—Solomon Webster; Lysander—Ephraim Sumner; New Milford—Henry Strong; Owen—David F. Talbot (chairman); Rockford—Bela Shaw, Milton Kilburn, ass't; Rockton—Geo. H. Hollister; Roscoe—Wm. W. Wadsworth; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Hazen Chandler; Winnebago—Albert G. Rainey.

1859.

Burritt—Hiram Atwood; Cherry Valley—Eli F. Roberts; Guilford—Abraham I. Enoch; Harlem—John Smith; Harrison—Allen Rice; Howard—Newman Campbell; Laona—William Randall; Lysander—Wm. C. Prouty; New Milford—D. S. Pardee; Owen—Samuel W. Taylor; Rockford—S. M. Church (chairman), Milton Kilburn, ass't; Rockton—John Perham; Roscoe—James A. Wilson; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Hazen Chandler; Winnebago—Albert G. Rainey.

1860.

Burritt—Adam Keith, Jr.; Cherry Valley—E. F. Roberts; Guilford—J. H. Kirk; Harlem—John Smith; Harrison—Allen Rice; Howard—Duncan J. Stewart; Laona—D. Emmons Adams; Lysander—John B. Judd; New Milford—Dan-

iel S. Pardee; Owen—Samuel W. Taylor; Rockford—S. M. Church (chairman), Milton Kilburn, ass't; Rockton—John Perham; Roscoe—James A. Wilson; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Henry S. Austin; Winnebago—Peter Hallowell.

1861.

Burritt—Daniel C. McDougall; Cherry Valley—Eli F. Roberts; Guilford—Jonathan H. Kirk; Harlem—John McAfee; Harrison—Wm. H. Riley; Howard—Duncan J. Stewart; Laona—D. Emmons Adams; Lysander—John B. Judd; New Milford—Roswell H. Harris; Owen—Lewis W. Owen; Rockford—Selden M. Church (chairman), Anthony Haines, ass't; Rockton—Erastus H. Stanton; Roscoe—L. B. Bradley; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Henry S. Austin; Winnebago—Peter Hallowell.

1862.

Burritt—Daniel C. McDougall; Cherry Valley—Eli F. Roberts; Guilford—Jonathan H. Kirk; Harlem—John McAfee; Harrison—William H. Riley; Howard—Duncan J. Stewart; Laona—D. Emmons Adams; Lysander—John B. Judd; New Milford—Roswell H. Harris; Owen—Lewis W. Owen; Rockford—Selden M. Church (chairman), Anthony Haines, ass't; Rockton—Erastus H. Stanton; Roscoe—L. B. Bradley; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Henry S. Austin; Winnebago—Peter Hallowell.

1863.

Burritt—Daniel C. McDougall; Cherry Valley—Eli F. Roberts; Guilford—Jonathan H. Kirk; Harlem—Peter Mabie; Harrison—Lucien Williams; Howard—Duncan J. Stewart; Laona—D. Emmons Adams; Lysander—Thomas Hance; New Milford—Frederick H. Maxwell; Owen—Francis E. Latham; Rockford—Selden M. Church (chairman), Anthony Haines, ass't; Rockton—Erastus H. Stanton; Roscoe—Wm. F. Jerome; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Henry S. Austin; Winnebago—Horace P. Cowles.

1864.

Burritt—Joseph Manchester; Cherry Valley—Eli F. Roberts; Guilford—Jonathan H. Kirk; Harlem—William Ferguson; Harrison—Lucien Williams; Howard—Duncan J. Stewart; Laona—Alson Bills; Lysander—Thomas Hance; New

Milford—Frederick H. Maxwell; Owen—Francis E. Latham; Rockford—Selden M. Church (chairman), Anthony Haines, ass't; Rockton—Henry Shibley; Roscoe—William F. Jerome; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Henry S. Austin; Winnebago—Horace P. Cowles.

1865.

Burritt—Joseph Manchester; Cherry Valley—Eli F. Roberts (chairman); Guilford—Jonathan H. Kirk; Harlem—William Ferguson; Harrison—William Atkinson; Howard—Duncan J. Stewart; Laona—D. Emmons Adams; Lysander—Abram S. Van Dyke; New Milford—Daniel S. Pardee; Owen—Francis E. Latham; Rockford—Joel S. Shearman; Rockford City—First Ward, Anthony Haines, Second Ward, John Lake, Third Ward, Henry Fisher, Fourth Ward, Louis Jackson, Fifth Ward, Asa Hall; Rockton—Geo. H. Hollister; Roscoe—Wm. F. Jerome; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Henry S. Austin; Winnebago—Horace P. Cowles.

1866.

Burritt—Joseph Manchester; Cherry Valley—Eli F. Roberts; Guilford—Jonathan H. Kirk; Harlem—Peter Mabie; Harrison—William Atkinson; Howard—Andrew Ashton; Laona—D. Emmons Adams; Lysander—Abram S. Van Dyke; New Milford—Daniel S. Pardee; Owen—Francis E. Latham; Rockford—S. M. Church (chairman); Rockford City—First Ward, Anthony Haines, Second Ward, John Lake, Third Ward, Henry Fisher, Fourth Ward, Louis Jackson, Fifth Ward, Asa W. Weldon; Rockton—Geo. H. Hollister; Roscoe—Robert J. Cross; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Henry S. Austin; Winnebago—Horace P. Cowles.

1867.

Burritt—Joseph Manchester; Cherry Valley—Eli F. Roberts (chairman); Guilford—Jonathan H. Kirk; Harlem—John Smith; Harrison—William Atkinson; Howard—Duncan J. Stewart; Laona—D. Emmons Adams; Lysander—Ephraim Sumner; New Milford—Daniel S. Pardee; Owen—Francis E. Latham; Rockford—Amos C. Spafford; Rockford City—First Ward, Anthony Haines, Second Ward, John Lake, Third Ward, Henry Fisher, Fourth Ward, Louis Jackson, Fifth Ward, Asa W. Weldon; Rockton—David Carpenter; Roscoe—Robert J. Cross;

Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Henry S. Austin; Winnebago—Webster Osborn.

land—A. Chamberlain; Winnebago—Webster Osborn.

1868.

Burritt—Joseph Manchester; Cherry Valley—Wesley Howard; Guilford—Jonathan H. Kirk; Harlem—John Smith; Harrison—William Atkinson; Howard—John F. Pettingill; Laona—D. Emmons Adams; Lysander—Ephraim Sumner; New Milford—Daniel S. Pardee; Owen—Francis E. Latham; Rockford—Amos C. Spafford; Rockford City—First Ward, Anthony Haines, Second Ward, John Lake, Third Ward, Henry Fisher, Fourth Ward, S. G. Bronson, Fifth Ward, Asa W. Weldon; Rockton—David Carpenter; Roscoe—Robert J. Cross (chairman); Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Henry S. Austin; Winnebago—Webster Osborn.

1869.

Burritt—John Nettleton; Cherry Valley—Chandler A. Dunwell; Durand—Samuel Derwent; Guilford—Jonathan H. Kirk; Harlem—Peter Mabie; Harrison—William Atkinson; Laona—D. Emerson Adams; New Milford—D. S. Pardee; Owen—Francis E. Latham; Pecatonica—Ephraim Sumner; Rockford—Seldon M. Church; Rockford City—First Ward, Anthony Haines, Second Ward, John Lake, Third Ward, Henry Fisher, Fourth Ward, Louis Jackson, Fifth Ward, Asa W. Weldon; Rockton—David Carpenter; Roscoe—Robert J. Cross; Seward—Alfred W. Copeland; Shirland—Alonzo Chamberlain; Winnebago—Webster Osborn.

1870.

Burritt—C. A. Hemenway; Cherry Valley—C. A. Dunwell; Durand—Samuel Derwent; Guilford—J. H. Kirk; Harlem—Peter Mabie; Harrison—William Atkinson; Laona—D. E. Adams; New Milford—Daniel C. Pardee; Owen—F. E. Latham; Pecatonica—Irvin French; Rockford—S. M. Church; Rockford City—First Ward, Anthony Haines, Second Ward, John Lake, Third Ward, Henry Fisher, Fourth Ward, Geo. M. Smith, Fifth Ward, A. W. Weldon; Rockton—Robert Penman; Roscoe—Robert J. Cross; Seward—A. W. Copeland; Shir-

1871.

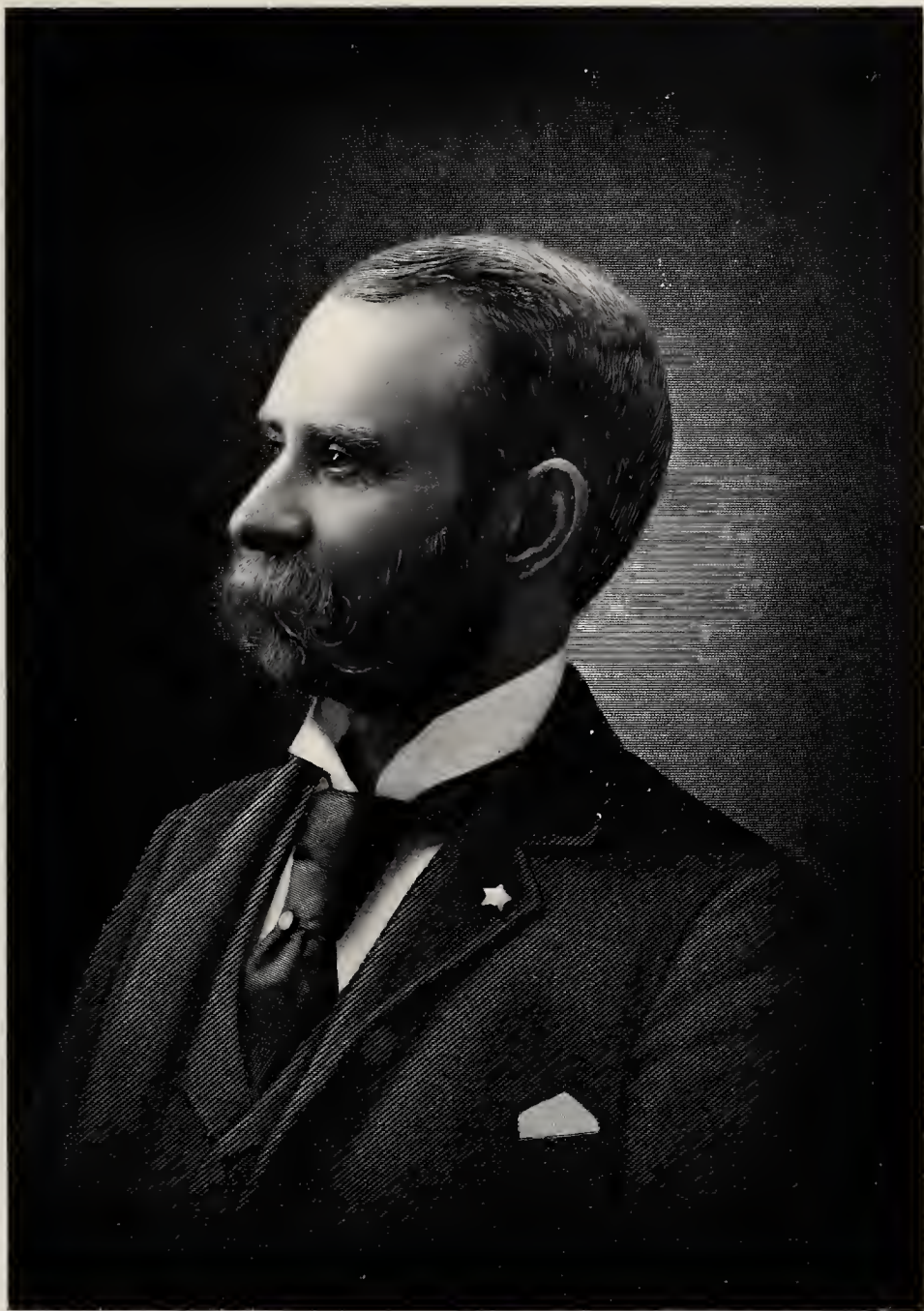
Burritt—C. A. Hemenway; Cherry Valley—E. A. Blackington; Durand—Samuel Derwent; Guilford—J. H. Kirk; Harlem—Daniel C. Ralston; Harrison—William Atkinson; Laona—D. E. Adams; New Milford—Geo. A. Crosby; Owen—F. E. Latham; Pecatonica—Irvin French; Rockford—S. M. Church; Rockford City—First Ward, A. Haines, Second Ward, John Lake, Third Ward, Isaac Utter, Fourth Ward, Geo. M. Smith, Fifth Ward, J. H. Jones, Sixth Ward, Solomon Wheeler, Seventh Ward, Duncan Ferguson; Rockton—Robert Penman; Roscoe—R. J. Cross; Seward—A. W. Copeland; Shirland—H. S. Austin, Sr.; Winnebago—Webster Osborn.

1872.

Burritt—C. A. Hemenway; Cherry Valley—C. A. Dunwell; Durand—D. J. Stewart; Guilford—J. H. Kirk; Harlem—Peter Mabie; Harrison—William Atkinson; Laona—Peter Johnson; New Milford—Geo. A. Crosby; Owen—F. E. Latham; Pecatonica—Francis Salisbury; Rockford—John A. Chappell; Rockford City—First Ward, Anthony Haines, Second Ward, Horace Scovill, Third Ward, Isaac Utter, Fourth Ward, Geo. M. Smith, Fifth Ward, J. Herva Jones, Sixth Ward, Solomon Wheeler, Seventh Ward, Duncan Ferguson; Rockton—Robert Penman, David Carpenter; Roscoe—R. J. Cross; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Williston Reckhow; Winnebago—Webster Osborn.

1873.

Burritt—C. A. Hemenway; Cherry Valley—W. D. Witmer; Durand—John R. Herring; Guilford—A. C. Gleason; Harlem—Philetus S. Doolittle; Harrison—William Atkinson; Laona—Peter Johnson; New Milford—Geo. A. Crosby; Owen—F. E. Latham; Pecatonica—Francis Salisbury; Rockford—John C. Chappell; Rockford City—First Ward, Anthony Haines, Second Ward, H. C. Scovill, Third Ward, Isaac Utter, Fourth Ward, Geo. M. Smith, Fifth Ward, John M. Waldron, Sixth Ward,



Edw. Turner

Solomon Wheeler, Seventh Ward, Duncan Ferguson; Rockton—David Carpenter; Roscoe—H. H. Blackington; Seward—Edmund Whittlesey; Shirland—Williston Reckhow; Winnebago—Webster Osborn.

1874.

Burritt—C. A. Hemenway; Cherry Valley—C. I. Hussey; Durand—John R. Herring; Guilford—A. C. Gleason; Harlem—Philetus S. Doolittle; Harrison—Wm. Atkinson; Laona—D. E. Adams; New Milford—Geo. A. Crosby; Owen—F. E. Latham; Pecatonica—John D. Jackson; Rockford—John Budlong; Rockford City—First Ward, A. Haines, Second Ward, H. C. Scovill, Third Ward, Thomas Derwent, Fourth Ward, Geo. M. Smith, Fifth Ward, M. S. Gorham, Sixth Ward, Harris Barnum, Seventh Ward, Duncan Ferguson; Rockton—David Carpenter; Roscoe—John McAfee; Seward—E. W. Whittlesey; Winnebago—O. R. Gorham; Shirland—William Harley.

1875.

Burritt—C. A. Hemenway; Cherry Valley—Hugh Mackey; Durand—John R. Herring; Guilford—J. H. Kirk; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—Wm. Atkinson; Laona—Moses E. Rowley; New Milford—E. H. Haight; Owen—F. E. Latham; Pecatonica—Thomas Hance; Rockford—John Budlong; Rockford City—First Ward, A. Haines, Second Ward, H. C. Scovill, Third Ward, Thomas Derwent, Fourth Ward, Geo. M. Smith, Fifth Ward, James H. Manny, Sixth Ward, Harris Barnum, Seventh Ward, Duncan Ferguson; Rockton—J. R. Merritt; Roscoe—J. M. Rhodes; Seward—E. W. Whittlesey; Shirland—H. P. Cowles; Winnebago—R. C. Sweet.

1876.

Burritt—William Keith; Cherry Valley—Hugh Mackey; Durand—John R. Herring; Guilford—J. H. Kirk; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—Wm. Atkinson; Laona—Peter Johnson; New Milford—E. H. Haight; Owen—F. E. Latham; Pecatonica—J. D. Jackson; Rockford—A. C. Spafford; Rockford City—First Ward, A. Haines, Second Ward, H. C. Scovill, Third Ward, H. N. Starr, Fourth Ward, Geo. M. Smith, Fifth Ward, Byron Graham, Sixth

Ward, Harris Barnum, Seventh Ward, Duncan Ferguson; Rockton—J. R. Merritt; Roscoe—J. M. Rhodes; Seward—E. W. Whittlesey; Shirland—H. P. Cowles; Winnebago—William Harley.

1877.

Burritt—Wm. H. Keith; Cherry Valley—B. S. Sanborn; Durand—John R. Herring; Guilford—J. H. Kirk; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—William Atkinson; Laona—T. H. Briggs; New Milford—William A. Rothwell; Owen—William Halley; Pecatonica—S. C. Hollenbeck; Rockford—A. C. Spafford; Rockford City—First Ward, A. Haines, Second Ward, H. C. Scovill, Third Ward, H. N. Starr, Fourth Ward, Geo. M. Smith, Fifth Ward, T. O. Scougall, Sixth Ward, Harris Barnum, Seventh Ward, Duncan Ferguson; Rockton—J. B. Merritt; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—Marcus L. Lowry; Shirland—W. W. Hull; Winnebago—H. P. Cowles.

1878.

Burritt—Wm. H. Keith; Cherry Valley—B. S. Sanborn; Durand—Oliver F. Hart; Guilford—David Hunter; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—Wm. Atkinson; Laona—Peter Johnson; New Milford—Wm. A. Rothwell; Owen—Albert Hulett; Pecatonica—John D. Jackson; Rockford—A. C. Spafford; Rockford City—First Ward, A. Haines, Second Ward, John Erlander, Third Ward, H. N. Starr, Fourth Ward, Geo. M. Smith, Fifth Ward, T. O. Scougall, Sixth Ward, A. C. Johnson, Seventh Ward, Duncan Ferguson; Rockton—J. B. Merritt; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—Marcus L. Lowry; Shirland—H. S. Austin; Winnebago—H. P. Cowles.

1879.

Burritt—Wm. Knapp; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Joseph Tombs; Guilford—David Hunter; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—Daniel Dobson; Laona—T. H. Briggs; New Milford—Wm. A. Rothwell; Owen—Albert Hulett; Pecatonica—John D. Jackson; Rockford—Robert Simpson; Rockford City—First Ward, Roger Brown, Second Ward, John Erlander, Third Ward, H. N. Starr, Fourth Ward, C. L. Robinson, Fifth Ward, John Lindsay, Sixth

Ward, G. A. Salstrom, Seventh Ward, Duucan Ferguson; Rockton—E. J. Veness; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—M. L. Lowry; Shirland—W. W. Hull; Winnebago—O. R. Gorham.

1880.

Burritt—William Knapp; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Joseph Tombs; Guilford—David Hunter; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrisou—William Atkinson; Laona—Peter Johnson; New Milford—Wm. A. Rothwell; Owen—Albert Hulett; Pecatonica—John D. Jacksou; Rockford—Robert Simpson; Rockford City—First Ward, O. A. Penuoyer, Second Ward, H. F. Peterson, Third Ward, Hiram R. Enoch, Fourth Ward, C. L. Robinson, Fifth Ward, John Lindsay, Sixth Ward, Wm. H. Miller, Seventh Ward, Duncan Fergusou; Rockton—E. J. Veness; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—Dudley W. Day; Shirland—Johu H. Nye; Winuebago—Orange R. Gorham.

1881.

Burritt—William Knapp; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Joseph Tombs; Guilford—David Hunter; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—William Atkinson; Laona—Peter Johnson; New Milford—Wm. A. Rothwell; Owen—Albert Hulett; Pecatonica—John D. Jacksou; Rockford—Robert Simpson; Rockford City—First Ward, Anthony Haines, Second Ward, H. F. Peterson, Third Ward, H. R. Enoch, Fourth Ward, Samuel N. Jones, Fifth Ward, John Lindsay, Sixth Ward, W. W. Johnson, Seventh Ward, F. F. Peats; Rockton—E. J. Veness; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—Dudley W. Day; Shirland—John H. Nye; Winnebago—Orange R. Gorham.

1882.

Burritt—William Knapp; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Warren E. Fyler; Guilford—Josiah Manning; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—Wm. Atkinson; Laona—Alonzo Smith; New Milford—F. H. Maxwell; Owen—Albert Hulett; Pecatonica—J. D. Jackson; Rockford—Robert Simpson; Rockford City—First Ward, Edwin C. Haine, Second Ward, H. F. Peterson, Third Ward, H. H. Palmer, Fourth Ward, Samuel N. Joes, Fifth Ward,

David Walsh, Sixth Ward, J. A. R. Johnson, Seventh Ward, Cassius C. Jones; Rockton—E. J. Veness; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—Dudley W. Day; Shirland—J. M. Babcock; Winnebago—Orange R. Gorham.

1883.

Burritt—William Knapp; Cherry Valley—Heury Andrus; Durand—Warreu E. Fyler; Guilford—Josiah Manniug; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—Floyd Smith; Laona—Alonzo Smith; New Milford—W. A. Rothwell; Owen—Albert Hulett; Pecatonica—John W. Wolvin; Rockford—Robert Simpson; Rockford City—First Ward, Thomas F. Palmer, Second Ward, H. F. Peterson, Third Ward, H. H. Palmer, Fourth Ward, S. N. Joes, Fifth Ward, M. A. Norton, Sixth Ward, J. A. R. Johuson, Seventh Ward, C. C. Jones; Rockton—E. J. Veness; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—D. W. Day; Shirland—J. M. Babcock; Winnebago—Orange R. Gorham.

1884.

Burritt—William Knapp; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Peter Patterson; Guilford—Josiah Manning; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—Floyd Smith; Laona—Alouzo Smith; New Milford—F. M. Marsh; Owen—A. J. Smith; Pecatonica—John D. Jackson; Rockford—Robert Simpson; Rockford City—First Ward, David S. Hough, Second Ward, John Erlander, Third Ward, John M. Kennedy, Fourth Ward, Samuel N. Jones, Fifth Ward, M. A. Norton, Sixth Ward, A. G. Johnson, Seventh Ward, Cassius C. Jones; Rockton—E. J. Veuess; Roscoe—Edward H. Randall; Seward—Dudley W. Day; Shirland—B. D. Goldy; Winnebago—H. P. Cowles.

1885.

Burritt—William Knapp; Cherry Valley—Heury Andrus; Durand—Oliver F. Hoyt; Guilford—Josiah Manning; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—Floyd Smith; Laona—Alonzo Smith; New Milford—W. A. Rothwell; Oweu—A. J. Smith; Pecatonica—Marvin Hammond; Rockford—Robert Simpson; Rockford City—First Ward, David S. Hough, Second Ward, Theodore E. Buckbee, Third Ward, W. B. Reynolds,

Fourth Ward, Samuel N. Jones, Fifth Ward, M. A. Norton, Sixth Ward, Matthew Harvey, Seventh Ward, Lucian Williams; Rockton—E. J. Veness; Roscoe—E. H. Randall; Seward—Dudley W. Day; Shirland—B. D. Goldy; Winnebago—M. M. Swan.

1886.

Burritt—E. B. Durno; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—O. F. Hoyt; Guilford—Josiah Manning; Harlem—Alexander Collier; Harrison—Robert Oliver; Laona—Thomas H. Briggs; New Milford—W. A. Rothwell; Owen—A. J. Smith; Pecatonica—John D. Jackson; Rockford—Robert Simpson; Rockford City—First Ward, James Walsh, Second Ward, John Erlander, Third Ward, John E. Sullivan, Fourth Ward, Charles O. Upton, Fifth Ward, F. W. C. Elson, Sixth Ward, A. G. Johnson, Seventh Ward, Lucian Williams; Rockton—E. J. Veness; Roscoe—E. H. Randall; Seward—Dudley W. Day; Shirland—B. D. Goldy; Winnebago—Marcus M. Swan.

1887.

Burritt—E. B. Durno; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Scott Monteith; Guilford—Josiah Manning; Harlem—Alex. Collier; Harrison—Robert Oliver; Laona—T. H. Briggs; New Milford—J. L. McEvoy; Owen—Minard Steward; Pecatonica—John W. Wolvin; Rockford—Robert Simpson; Rockford City—First Ward, C. A. Richardson, Second Ward, John Erlander, Third Ward, H. H. Palmer, Fourth Ward, C. O. Upton, Fifth Ward, James Carson, Sixth Ward, E. W. Marsh, Seventh Ward, Lucian Williams; Rockton—E. J. Veness; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—Dudley W. Day; Shirland—B. D. Goldy; Winnebago—N. F. Parsons.

1888.

Burritt—E. B. Durno; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Scott Monteith; Guilford—Josiah Manning; Harlem—Alex. Collier; Harrison—Robert Oliver; Laona—Thomas H. Briggs; New Milford—J. L. McEvoy; Owen—Minard Steward; Pecatonica—John W. Wolvin; Rockford—Robert Simpson; Rockford City—First Ward, Wm. Knapp, Second Ward, H. W. Carpenter, Third Ward, H. H. Palmer, Fourth

Ward, C. O. Upton, Fifth Ward, George Wilson, Sixth Ward, A. G. Johnson, Seventh Ward, Lucian Williams; Rockton—A. A. Snyder; Roscoe—E. H. Randall; Seward—Dudley W. Day; Shirland—B. D. Goldy; Winnebago—N. F. Parsons.

1889.

Burritt—John McPherson; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Wilson A. Patterson; Guilford—Josiah Manning; Harlem—S. G. Atwood; Harrison—Robert Oliver; Laona—T. T. Hartman; New Milford—J. L. McEvoy; Owen—Minard Steward; Pecatonica—John W. Wolvin; Rockford—Daniel B. Redington; Rockford City—First Ward, William Knapp, Second Ward, H. W. Carpenter, Third Ward, W. H. King, Fourth Ward, A. P. Wells, Fifth Ward, George F. Wilson, Sixth Ward, Henry Freeman, Seventh Ward, D. G. Spaulding; Rockton—A. A. Snyder; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—Dudley W. Day; Shirland—John H. Nye; Winnebago—N. F. Parsons.

1890.

Burritt—John McPherson; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Wilson A. Patterson; Guilford—George W. Collins; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—Floyd Smith; Laona—T. T. Hartman; New Milford—Price Lewis; Owen—J. W. Armstrong; Pecatonica—John W. Wolvin; Rockford—Daniel B. Redington; Rockford City—First Ward, William Knapp, Second Ward, H. W. Carpenter, Third Ward, George H. Cormack, Fourth Ward, A. P. Wells, Fifth Ward, George F. Wilson, Sixth Ward, J. M. Turner, Seventh Ward, D. G. Spaulding; Rockton—A. A. Snyder; Roscoe—George H. Muchmore; Seward—W. M. Neely; Shirland—John H. Nye; Winnebago—A. T. Roberts.

1891.

Burritt—John McPherson; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Scott Monteith; Guilford—George W. Collins; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—D. W. Barningham; Laona—Clark Smith; New Milford—Price Lewis; Owen—J. W. Armstrong; Pecatonica—John W. Wolvin; Rockford—Daniel B. Redington; Rockford City—First Ward, William Knapp, Second

Ward, H. W. Carpenter, Third Ward, George H. Cormack, Fourth Ward, A. P. Wells, Fifth Ward, George F. Wilson, Sixth Ward, J. M. Turner, Seventh Ward, D. L. Hughs; Rockton—A. A. Snyder; Roscoe—Geo. H. Muchmore; Seward—Wm. M. Neely; Shirland—John H. Nye; Winnebago—A. T. Roberts.

1892.

Burritt—John McPherson; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Henry E. Harris; Guilford—George W. Collins; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—D. W. Barningham; Laona—Niles Patterson; New Milford—Frank A. Baxter; Owen—E. R. Halley; Pecatonica—W. J. De La Mater; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, H. W. Carpenter, A. P. Wells, August Peterson, Edwin C. Coppins, J. M. Turner, B. A. Weber, James H. Carson, Theodore E. Buckbee; Rockton—James S. Cowen; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—William M. Neely; Shirland—B. D. Goldy; Winnebago—James L. McLain.

1893.

Burritt—James McPherson; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—H. E. Harris; Guilford—Geo. W. Collins; Harlem—Andrew J. Lovejoy; Harrison—D. W. Barningham; Laona—Niles Patterson; New Milford—F. A. Baxter; Owen—E. R. Halley; Pecatonica—W. J. De La Mater; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, H. W. Carpenter, E. H. Keeler, August Peterson, E. C. Coppins, J. M. Turner, B. A. Weber, James H. Carson, Theo. E. Buckbee; Rockton—J. S. Cowen; Roscoe—J. M. Rhodes; Seward—Wm. M. Neely; Shirland—Wm. Atkinson; Winnebago—Willard Osborn.

1894.

Burritt—James McPherson; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—H. E. Harris; Guilford—Omri J. Cummings; Harlem—Andrew J. Lovejoy; Harrison—D. W. Barningham; Laona—Niles Patterson; New Milford—F. A. Baxter; Owen—John Black; Pecatonica—C. H. Latham; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, H. W. Carpenter, E. H. Keeler, August Peterson, E. C. Coppins,

J. M. Turner, B. A. Weber, J. H. Carson, Theo. E. Buckbee; Rockton—J. S. Cowen; Roscoe—J. M. Rhodes; Seward—Wm. M. Neely; Shirland—Wm. Atkinson; Winnebago—Willard L. Osborn.

1895.

Burritt—James McPherson; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—Henry E. Harris; Guilford—George W. Collins; Harlem—L. A. Fabrick; Harrison—D. W. Barningham; Laona—Niles Patterson; New Milford—Frank A. Baxter; Owen—E. R. Halley; Pecatonica—W. J. De La Mater; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, H. W. Carpenter, A. P. Wells, August Peterson, Edwin C. Coppins, J. M. Turner, B. A. Weber, James H. Carson, Theodore E. Buckbee; Rockton—James S. Cowen; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—William M. Neely; Shirland—B. D. Goldy; Winnebago—James L. McLain.

1896.

Burritt—James McPherson; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—H. E. Harris; Guilford—Geo. W. Collins; Harlem—Andrew J. Lovejoy; Harrison—D. W. Barningham; Laona—Niles Patterson; New Milford—F. A. Baxter; Owen—E. R. Halley; Pecatonica—W. J. De La Mater; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, H. W. Carpenter, E. H. Keeler, August Peterson, E. C. Coppins, J. M. Turner, B. A. Weber, J. H. Carson, Theo. E. Buckbee; Rockton—J. S. Cowen; Roscoe—J. M. Rhodes; Seward—Wm. M. Neely; Shirland—Wm. Atkinson; Winnebago—Willard Osborn.

1897.

Burritt—James McPherson; Cherry Valley—Henry Andrus; Durand—H. E. Harris; Guilford—Omri J. Cummings; Harlem—Andrew J. Lovejoy; Harrison—D. W. Barningham; Laona—Niles Patterson; New Milford—F. A. Baxter; Owen—John Black; Pecatonica—C. H. Latham; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, H. W. Carpenter, E. H. Keeler, August Peterson, E. C. Coppins; J. M. Turner, B. A. Weber, J. H. Carson, Theo. E. Buckbee; Rockton—J. S. Cowen; Roscoe—



Fred J. Reid

J. M. Rhodes; Seward—Wm. M. Neely; Shirland—Wm. Atkinson; Winnebago—Williard L. Osborn.

1898.

Burritt—James McPherson; Cherry Valley—T. M. Lee; Durand—Frank Sheik; Guilford—O. J. Cummings; Harlem—A. J. Lovejoy; Harrison—D. W. Barningham; Laona—Niles Patterson; New Milford—F. A. Baxter; Owen—John Black; Pecatonica—C. H. Latham; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, E. C. Coppins, E. H. Keeler, August Peterson, A. C. Abramson, T. E. Buckbee; J. H. Carson, J. M. Turner, W. Van Alstyne; Rockton—J. S. Cowen; Roscoe—J. M. Rhodes; Seward—D. W. Day; Shirland—R. C. Sweet; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1899.

Burritt—James McPherson; Cherry Valley—T. M. Lee; Durand—Frank Sheik; Guilford—O. J. Cummings; Harlem—A. J. Lovejoy; Harrison—D. W. Barningham; Laona—Niles Patterson; New Milford—L. C. Hall, resigned, C. J. Radcliffe; Owen—John Black; Pecatonica—C. H. Latham; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, E. C. Coppins, E. H. Keeler, August H. Nylander, P. G. Bowman, T. E. Buckbee, J. H. Carson, J. M. Turner, W. Van Alstyne; Rockton—J. S. Cowen; Roscoe—J. M. Rhodes; Seward—D. W. Day; Shirland—R. C. Sweet; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1900.

Burritt—John E. Compton; Cherry Valley—E. L. George; Durand—Frank Sheik; Guilford—O. J. Cummings; Harlem—A. J. Lovejoy; Harrison—D. W. Barningham; Laona—Niles Patterson; New Milford—C. J. Radcliffe; Owen—John Black; Pecatonica—C. H. Latham; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, E. C. Coppins; E. H. Keeler, Aug. H. Nylander, P. G. Bowman, T. E. Buckbee, J. H. Carson, J. M. Turner, W. Van Alstyne; Rockton—J. S. Cowen; Roscoe—E. H. Randall—Seward—William M. Neely; Shirland—R. C. Miller; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1901.

Burritt—John E. Compton; Cherry Valley—T. M. Lee; Durand—H. M. Shorb; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—A. J. Lovejoy; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—Niles Patterson; New Milford—C. J. Radcliffe; Owen—John Black; Pecatonica—W. J. De La Mater; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, E. C. Coppins, J. R. Whitehead, August H. Nylander, John P. Ek, William E. Shouler, C. G. W. Sandehn, G. H. Larson, James H. Carson, James M. Turner, Theodore E. Buckbee, Walter Van Alstyne; Rockton—J. S. Cowen; Roscoe—E. H. Randall; Seward—William M. Neely; Shirland—R. C. Miller; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1902.

Burritt—John E. Compton; Cherry Valley—T. M. Lee; Durand—H. M. Shorb; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—Daniel Ralston; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—Niles Patterson; New Milford—T. L. Cleveland; Owen—John Black; Pecatonica—W. J. De La Mater; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, E. C. Coppins, J. B. Whitehead, Aug. H. Nylander, John P. Ek, William Dobson, C. G. W. Sandehn, Fred N. Drake, Oscar J. Holmquist, L. O. Berg, Theo. E. Buckbee, W. Van Alstyne; Rockton—J. S. Cowen; Roscoe—E. H. Randall; Seward—Dudley W. Day; Shirland—R. C. Miller, resigned, B. D. Goldy; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1903.

Burritt—John E. Compton; Cherry Valley—T. M. Lee; Durand—H. M. Shorb; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—Daniel Ralston; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—James W. Yale; New Milford—T. L. Cleveland; Owen—John Black; Pecatonica—W. J. De La Mater; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—William Knapp, E. C. Coppins, J. B. Whitehead, Aug. H. Nylander, John P. Ek, William Dobson, C. G. W. Sandehn, Fred N. Drake, Oscar J. Holmquist, L. O. Berg, Theo. E. Buckbee, W. Van Alstyne; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—E. H. Randall; Seward—D. W. Day; Shirland—B. D. Goldy; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1904.

Burritt—J. E. Compton, resigned, W. H. Keith; Cherry Valley—C. C. Case; Durand—H. M. Shorb; Harlem—James M. Smith; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—James W. Yale; New Milford—T. L. Cleveland; Owen—John Black; Pecatonica—W. J. De La Mater; Rockford—D. B. Redington; Rockford City assistants—Walter Van Alstyne, John P. Ek, Fred N. Drake, Oscar J. Holmquist, T. E. Buckbee, William Dobson, E. C. Coppins, August H. Nylander, Joel B. Whitehead, C. G. W. Sandehn, L. O. Berg, William Knapp; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—J. M. Rhodes; Seward—Hugh S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1905.

Burritt—W. H. Keith; Cherry Valley—C. C. Case; Durand—Oscar D. Becker; Guilford—James M. Smith; Harlem—John H. Wishop; Harrison—James W. Yale; Laona—Bert Baxter; New Milford—John Black; Owen—W. J. De La Mater; Pecatonica—D. B. Redington; Rockford—Walter Van Alstyne; Rockford City assistants—John P. Ek, Fred N. Drake, O. J. Holmquist, Samuel Kjellgren, William Dobson, E. C. Coppins, F. A. Noling, J. B. Whitehead, C. G. W. Sandehn, L. O. Berg, William Knapp; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—John M. Rhodes; Seward—Hugh S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1906.

Burritt—W. H. Keith; Cherry Valley—T. M. Lee; Durand—John R. Post; Guilford—James M. Smith; Harlem—John H. Wishop; Harrison—James W. Yale; Laona—Bert Baxter; New Milford—John Black; Owen—W. J. De La Mater; Pecatonica—D. B. Redington, died, William Andrews, appointed; Rockford—Walter Van Alstyne; Rockford City assistants—John P. Ek, Fred N. Drake, Edw. A. Wettergren, Samuel Kjellgren, William Dobson, E. C. Coppins, F. A. Noling, J. B. Whitehead, C. G. W. Sandehn, L. O. Berg, William Knapp; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—Geo. M. Taft; Seward—Hugh S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1907.

Burritt—W. H. Keith; Cherry Valley—T. M. Lee; Durand—Charles H. Green; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—James M. Smith; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—F. P. Cross; New Milford—S. E. Hoisington; Owen—Warren Gilmore; Pecatonica—W. J. De La Mater; Rockford—William Andrews; Rockford City assistants—A. E. Lindsay, James J. Swords, Chas. E. Fritz, John A. Getts, Lewis A. Whitwood, Geo. O. Carlson, E. A. Wettergren, Samuel Kjellgren, William Dobson, Walter Van Alstyne, John P. Ek, Fred N. Drake; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—Geo. M. Taft; Seward—H. S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1908.

Burritt—W. H. Keith; Cherry Valley—E. L. Hovey; Durand—Charles H. Green; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—Daniel McEachran; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—F. P. Cross; New Milford—S. E. Hoisington; Owen—Warren Gilmore; Pecatonica—W. J. De La Mater; Rockford—William Andrews; Rockford City assistants—A. E. Lindsay, James J. Swords, Chas. E. Fritz, John A. Getts, L. A. Whitwood, G. O. Carlson, L. O. Berg, S. F. Steffa, Thomas Gilmore, John A. Stenvall, John P. Ek, Fred N. Drake; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—Geo. M. Taft; Seward—H. S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1909.

Burritt—W. H. Keith; Cherry Valley—C. C. Case; Durand—Chas. H. Green; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—Daniel McEachran; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—A. E. Swinson; New Milford—T. W. Evans; Owen—Warren Gilmore; Pecatonica—W. J. DeLa-Mater; Rockford—William Andrews; Rockford City assistants—A. E. Lindsay, Ernest V. Johnson, Peter T. Anderson, J. P. O. Anderson, Oscar C. Hultberg, John A. Getts, L. O. Berg, S. F. Steffa, Thomas Gilmore, John A. Stenvall, John P. Ek, Fred N. Drake; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—Geo. M. Taft; Seward—H. S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—W. L. Osborn.

1910.

Burritt—W. H. Keith; Cherry Valley—Chas. J. Hyland; Durand—Charles H. Greene; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—Daniel McEachran; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—A. E. Swinson; New Milford—T. W. Evans; Owen—Warren Gilmore; Pecatonica—Henry M. Cooke; Rockford—William Andrews; Rockford City assistants—John P. Ek, Fred N. Drake, L. O. Berg, S. F. Steffa, Geo. W. Sherer, John A. Stenvall, A. E. Lindsay, John A. Getts, P. O. Anderson, Ernest V. Johnson, Oscar C. Hultberg, Peter T. Anderson; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—Geo. M. Taft; Seward—H. S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—Robert Spottswood.

1911.

Burritt—W. H. Keith; Cherry Valley—Chas. J. Hyland; Durand—Chas. H. Greene; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—Daniel McEachran; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—A. E. Swinson; New Milford—T. W. Evans; Owen—Charles Clikeman; Pecatonica—Henry M. Cooke; Rockford—William Andrews; Rockford City assistants—L. O. Berg, S. F. Steffa, Fred N. Drake, Geo. W. Sherer, John A. Stenvall, John P. Ek, Otto C. Hultberg, Peter T. Anderson, C. C. Jones, Warren O. Eddy, Robert A. Shepherd, Jay Lawton, Daniel M. Smith, V. R. Anderson, E. W. Chandler, A. E. Lindsay, P. O. Anderson; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—Geo. M. Taft; Seward—H. S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—Robert Spottswood.

1912.

Burritt—W. H. Keith, died, C. L. Wilcox, appointed; Cherry Valley—Chas. J. Hyland; Durand—Chas. H. Greene; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—D. McEachran, resigned, D. Picken, appointed; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—A. E. Swinson; New Milford—T. W. Evans; Owen—Chas. Clikeman; Pecatonica—Henry M. Cooke; Rockford—William Andrews; Rockford City assistants—Fred N. Drake, G. W. Sherer, John A. Stenvall, John P. Ek, C. C. Jones, Warren O. Eddy, Walter R. Trigg, C. A. Hult, P. O. Anderson, Peter T. Anderson, V. R. Anderson, E. W. Chandler, Otto C. Hultberg, Jay Lawton, A. E. Lindsay, Robert A. Shep-

herd, Daniel M. Smith; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—Geo. M. Taft; Seward—H. S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—Robert Spottswood.

1913.

Burritt—C. L. Wilcox, Cherry Valley—Chas. J. Hyland; Durand—Arthur J. Best; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—David Picken; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—O. H. Anderson; New Milford—R. A. Wilmarth; Owen—Charles Clikeman; Pecatonica—Henry M. Cooke; Rockford—William Andrews; Rockford City assistants—Fred N. Drake, Warren O. Eddy, John P. Ek, C. A. Hult, Otto C. Hultberg, C. C. Jones, Geo. W. Sherer, Daniel M. Smith, John A. Stenvall, Walter R. Trigg, A. E. Lindsay, Peter T. Anderson, P. O. Anderson, R. A. Shepherd, V. R. Anderson, E. W. Chandler, Jay Lawton; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—Geo. M. Taft; Seward—H. S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—Robert Spottswood.

1914.

Burritt—C. L. Wilcox; Cherry Valley—Chas. J. Hyland; Durand—Arthur J. Best; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—David Picken; Harrison—John H. Wishop; Laona—O. H. Anderson; New Milford—R. A. Wilmarth; Owen—Charles Clikeman; Pecatonica—Henry M. Cooke; Rockford—William Andrews; Rockford City assistants—P. O. Anderson, P. T. Anderson, V. R. Anderson, W. F. Barnes, E. W. Chandler, Arvid Gustafson, C. F. Henry, C. A. Hult, C. C. Jones, Jay Lawton, A. E. Lindsay, Benj. M. McLaughlin, Joseph T. Peters, R. A. Shepherd, D. M. Smith, John A. Stenvall, Walter R. Trigg; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—Geo. M. Taft; Seward—H. S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—Robert Spottswood.

1915.

Burritt—C. L. Wilcox; Cherry Valley—Chas. J. Hyland; Durand—Arthur J. Best; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—David Picken; Harrison—H. W. Monks; Laona—O. H. Anderson; New Milford—T. W. Evans; Owen—T. A. Denney; Pecatonica—Henry M. Cooke; Rockford—William Andrews; Rockford City assistants—A. E. Lindsay, P. T. Anderson, Jay Lawton, P. O.

Anderson, R. A. Shepherd, V. R. Anderson, Daniel M. Smith, Geo. M. Sechler, Carl Isaacson, W. F. Barnes, Warren O. Eddy, C. F. Henry, C. A. Hult, Benj. H. McLaughlin, Joseph T. Peters, John A. Stenvall, Walter R. Trigg; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—Geo. M. Taft; Seward—H. S. Smith; Shirland—C. E. Austin; Winnebago—Robert Spottswood.

1916.

Burritt—C. L. Wilcox; Cherry Valley—Charles J. Highland; Durand—Arthur J. Best; Guilford—John R. Post; Harlem—David Picken; Harrison—H. W. Monks; Laona—O. H. Ander-

son; New Milford—T. W. Evans; Owen—T. A. Denney; Pecatonica—Henry M. Cooke; Rockford—William Andrews; Rockford City assistants—A. E. Lindsay, P. T. Anderson, Jay Lawton, P. O. Anderson, R. A. Shepherd, V. R. Anderson, Daniel M. Smith (died), George Falconer (appointed to fill vacancy), George M. Sechler, Carl Isaacson, W. F. Barnes, Warren O. Eddy, C. F. Henry, C. A. Hult, Benjamin H. McLaughlin, Joseph T. Peters, John A. Stenvall, Walter R. Trigg; Rockton—F. W. Rockwell; Roscoe—George M. Taft; Seward—H. S. Smith; Shirland—Benjamin Bennett; Winnebago—Robert Spottswood.



Fred L. Reimer & Family

BIOGRAPHICAL

CHAPTER XLI.

THE PART OF BIOGRAPHY IN GENERAL HISTORY—
CITIZENS OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY AND OUTLINES
OF PERSONAL HISTORY—PERSONAL SKETCHES
ARRANGED IN ENCYCLOPEDIA ORDER.

The verdict of mankind has awarded to the Muse of History the highest place among the Classic Nine. The extent of her office, however, appears to be, by many minds, but imperfectly understood. The task of the historian is comprehensive and exacting. True history reaches beyond the doings of court or camp, beyond the issue of battles or the effects of treaties, and records the trials and the triumphs, the failures and the successes of the men who make history. It is but an imperfect conception of the philosophy of events that fails to accord to portraiture and biography its rightful position as a part—and no unimportant part—of historic narrative. Behind and beneath the activities of outward life the motive power lies out of sight, just as the furnace fires that work the piston and keep the ponderous screw revolving down in the darkness of the hold. So, the impulsive power which shapes the course of communities may be found in the molding influences which form its citizens.

It is no mere idle curiosity that prompts men to wish to learn the private, as well as the public, lives of their fellows. Rather is it true that such desire tends to prove universal brotherhood; and the interest in personality and biography is not confined to men of any particular caste or vocation.

The list of those to whose lot it falls to play a conspicuous part in the great drama of life, is comparatively short; yet communities are made up of individuals, and the aggregate of achievement—no less than the sum total of human happiness—is made up of the deeds of those men and women whose primary aim, through life, is faithfully to perform the duty that comes nearest to hand. Individual influences upon human affairs will be considered potent or insignificant, according to the standpoint from which it is viewed. To him who, standing upon the seashore, notes the ebb and flow of the tides and listens to the sullen roar of the waves, as they

break upon the beach in seething foam, seemingly chafing at their limitations, the ocean appears so vast as to need no tributaries. Yet, without the smallest rill that helps to swell the "Father of Waters," the mighty torrent of the Mississippi would be lessened, and the beneficent influence of the Gulf Stream diminished. Countless streams, currents and counter currents—sometimes mingling, sometimes counteracting each other—collectively combine to give motion to the accumulated mass of waters. So is it—and so must it ever be—in the ocean of human action, which is formed by the blending and repulsion of currents of thought, of influence and of life, yet more numerous and more tortuous than those which form the "fountains of the deep." The acts and characters of men, like the several faces that compose a composite picture, are wrought together into a compact or heterogeneous whole. History is condensed biography; "Biography is History teaching by example."

It is both interesting and instructive to rise above the generalization of history and trace, in the personality and careers of the men from whom it sprang, the principles and influences, the impulses and ambitions, the labors, struggles and triumphs that engross their lives.

Here are recorded the careers and achievements of pioneers who, "when the fullness of time had come," came from widely separated sources, some from beyond the sea, impelled by divers motives, little conscious of the import of their acts, and but dimly anticipating the harvest which would spring from the sowing. They built their primitive homes, toiling for a present subsistence while laying the foundations of private fortunes and future advancement.

Most of these have passed away, but not before they beheld a development of business and population surpassing the wildest dreams of fancy or expectation. A few yet remain whose years have passed the allotted three-score and ten, and who love to recount, among the cherished memories of their lives, their reminiscences of early days.

[The following items of personal and family history, having been arranged in encyclopedic (or alphabetical) order as to names of the individual subjects, no special index to this part of the work will be found necessary.]

ABBOTT, Thomas J., one of the substantial retired residents of Rockford, is now enjoying well-earned ease and comfort in his home at No. 448 N. Avon street. He was born in Rockland County, N. Y., January 11, 1839, a son of Thomas and Nancy (Blaubelt) Abbott. The father, who was a native of Rockland County, was of English descent, and a son of John Abbott, likewise born in Rockland County.

Thomas Abbott came to Rockford in 1856, and embarked in farming, although he had learned the shoemaker's trade in the East. Purchasing 160 acres of land in Rockford Township, Thomas Abbott developed into one of the leading farmers of Winnebago County, and lived on his property until 1878, when he sold and went to Eldora, Hardin County, Iowa, and there died in July, 1904, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. Thomas Abbott had twenty-one children, having been married twice, and ten of these still survive, although Thomas J. Abbott is the only one now residing in Winnebago County. His mother died in 1853. In addition to being a farmer, Thomas Abbott was a preacher and locally famous as an exhorter.

Thomas J. Abbott studied in the public schools of New York and Illinois, and assisted his father in the farm work. Having taken an active and intelligent interest in the progress of events that led up to the organization of the Republican party, he not only cast his vote for Abraham Lincoln for president in 1860, but gave testimony to support his principles by enlisting for service during the Civil war, on August 1, 1861, in Company G, Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which company was organized by Major Hobart at Chicago, and the first captain was M. L. Sabin. Col. Charles Knoblesdorph was the commander of the regiment. After his first enlistment term expired, Mr. Abbott re-enlisted January 1, 1864, at Blaine Crossroads, Tenn., and served until September 25, 1865, during all of that time being with his original company. In December, 1864, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant, and later to that of first lieutenant, and when he was mustered out he was adjutant. On May 17, 1864, Mr. Abbott was wounded at Adairsville, being shot in both hips, and he carried the bullet until September, 1865, while six years passed before the wound healed. This bullet is still in his possession, and is a curiosity for he carried it imbedded in his body near his spine for a period of nearly two years. In every way he proved himself a brave and loyal soldier. His activities took him in pursuit of General Price in Missouri, where the regiment remained until the fall of 1862, when it participated in the siege of Corinth, and from thence went to Cincinnati, crossing at that point to Covington, Ky., where it was attached to the Army of the Cumberland. Mr. Abbott was in engagements at Pea Ridge, Perryville, Stone River, Chattanooga, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, siege of Knoxville, the Atlanta campaign and the battles of Franklin and Nashville. Afterwards the regiment was sent into eastern Tennessee, and later

down the Mississippi River, where it remained until mustered out. In addition to Mr. Abbott, there were three other sons of Thomas Abbott who served during the Civil war, one of whom lost his life in defense of the Union. After his return home, Mr. Abbott was engaged in farming in Rockford Township until 1888, when he moved to Rockford and interested himself in several lines of business. In 1898 he retired. He owns two houses and lots in Rockford.

On March 29, 1864, Mr. Abbott was united in marriage with Adeline E. Kilburn, who was born at Rockford in 1846, a daughter of the late Milton Kilburn, first probate judge of Winnebago County, who came here from New Hampshire in 1835, his family being one of the oldest in this country. Representatives of this name were included among the passengers on the Mayflower. Judge Kilburn was one of the leading jurists of the county, and was also interested in farming in Rockford Township, formerly, in his native state, having been a druggist. Mrs. Abbott died December 1, 1902.

Since casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, Mr. Abbott has been a staunch Republican. He has served as highway commissioner, constable, sidewalk inspector and health officer, and in all these offices has displayed efficiency and capability. Mr. Abbott belongs to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., the Odd Fellows, the Red Men, the Eastern Star No. 166, is past high priest of Kishwaukee Chapter No. 24, R. A. M.; is a member of Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T.; is a member of the Freeport Consistory, and a noble of Tebala Temple of the Mystic Shrine. In all the relations of life, Mr. Abbott has proven his worth, and is held in the highest esteem by all who know him.

ABRAMSON, Alfred C., director of the Rockford Light Furniture Company, one of the most experienced furniture men of Rockford and a man who has given much of his time and interest to the betterment of public conditions, is a native son of Rockford, born May 8, 1859. His educational and practical training were both obtained at Rockford, and he commenced the latter in furniture factories. After some preliminary experience, he became connected with the firm of Johnson, Upson & Herrick, one of the first in the furniture business at this point. After two years with that firm, Mr. Abramson engaged with the Forest City Furniture Company, and later with the Excelsior Furniture Company, being its foreman and one of the stockholders, and remained there about four years. He then took stock in the Rockford Mantle & Furniture Company, and was its designer, and also designed for the Rockford Bookcase Company and the Haddorff Piano Company, so continuing until in April, 1901, he, with others, formed a stock company under the name of the Rockford Light Furniture Company.

Mr. Abramson was married at Rockford to Matilda Thoreson, born at Rockford, and their children are as follows: Herbert, who married

Gertrude Kjillgren and has two children, Paul Jean and Louise; and Amy B., who is at home. Mr. Abramson belongs to the Knights of Pythias and Rockford Lodge, A. F. & A. M. Originally a Republican, his advanced ideas made him a Progressive when there came a break in the party. When elected a supervisor of his township, on the Republican ticket, he proved a faithful and capable county official. A man of experience in the furniture business, he is recognized as being an authority upon many matters pertaining to this line and his honorable position among his associates has been secured through merit.

ACKEMANN, Harry W., M. D. The younger generation of physicians and surgeons are markedly alert and progressive, keeping posted upon the advance made in their profession and the discoveries in science. Winnebago County is the home of some of the most skillful of these medical practitioners and among them none stands higher than Dr. Harry W. Ackemann of Rockford, who maintains offices at Nos. 402-3 in the Brown building, and a residence at No. 1143 N. Church street. He was born at Elgin, Ill., September 15, 1885, a son of A. W. and Minnie (Buhmeyes) Ackemann, natives of Germany and Boone County, Ill., respectively. The father is engaged in business at Elgin.

Harry W. Ackemann was graduated from the Elgin High school in 1905, and then entered the Northwestern University where he took the medical course and was graduated therefrom in 1909. Following this he came to Rockford and for thirteen months was an interne at the Rockford Hospital, and while there passed the state board examinations, and then entered upon a general practice which he has since continued. At present Dr. Ackemann is a member of the medical staff of Rockford Hospital, and is captain surgeon of the Illinois medical corps assigned to the Third Infantry, Illinois National Guards. He is a member of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, of the Winnebago Medical Society, and the American Medical Association. Fraternally he affiliates with the Elks. His social relations are with the Rockford Gun and University clubs.

On February 21, 1911, Dr. Ackemann was married to Maude Leonore Goodspeed, born at Elgin, Ill., a daughter of Watson L. and Nellie (Scott) Goodspeed, the former of whom is a musician and teacher. Dr. and Mrs. Ackemann belong to the Singers and Players' Club of Rockford.

ACKERLY, W. Freeman, formerly one of the prominent and useful men of Winnebago County whose business affairs concerned Rockford and vicinity for many years, was born in Delaware County, N. Y., December 12, 1832, a son of Jonathan and Charlotte (Breeman) Ackerly. Jonathan Ackerly was born in northern England, while his wife was of French extraction. They were married in Delaware County, N. Y., and spent a few years in that vicinity, and then moved to Allegany County, N. Y.,

where he worked at his trade of millwright. After a few years he went to Conneaut, Ohio, and engaged in farming and in work at his trade. It was while residing here that his first wife died. He married (second) Miss Barnes, and soon thereafter they moved to Battle Creek, Mich., where he once more started work at his trade and so continued until his death, at the age of seventy-five years. His second wife survived him and died in New York state.

W. Freeman Ackerly spent his boyhood in Delaware County, N. Y., where he was educated. After leaving school he began learning the carpenter trade and worked at the same until nineteen years old, then left home to begin life for himself. In August, 1855, he went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he worked as a millwright for a year, and then came to Rockford, Ill., and here embarked in a contracting business. Later he went to Cherry Valley Township, where he built the Ezra May distillery, on the Kishwaukee River, near Belvidere, Ill., and was also engaged in a lumber business and conducted a general store. Finding an investment in land that suited him, he bought a farm in Cherry Valley Township, and acquired many other interests. His building activities were not confined entirely to Winnebago County, for he executed contracts throughout the state, and gave employment to many men. A prominent Mason, Mr. Ackerly was past master of the Cherry Valley Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and belonged to Rockford Lodge No. 17, Commandery, K. T. He held the office of master of his lodge for twenty years. A Republican, he was called upon to accept public office, and he discharged the duties pertaining to such ably and honorably.

August 3, 1855, Mr. Ackerly married Miss Adaline M. Alexander, a daughter of Nelson and Polly (Bacon) Alexander, and they became the parents of the following children: Ella M. Turner, who married James S. Turner, a son of J. M. Turner, who resides at No. 135 Baker Place, Rockford; Frederick N., who married Miss Nellie Adams, a daughter of Edward and Abigail Adams; Frank Freeman, who married Miss Kate Blackington, a daughter of Emmet Blackington; Jessie M., who married Burton M. Brown; and Jonathan Clark Eugene.

Nelson Alexander, the father of Mrs. Ackerly, was born in New Hampshire, April 5, 1807. His wife was a native of Connecticut, and they were married in New Hampshire. Later they moved to Maryland, and still later to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where the father took up 196 acres of land from the government. Until their death Mr. and Mrs. Nelson remained on this farm, she passing away when seventy-three years old, and he on April 5, 1892, aged eighty-five years. On the maternal side of the house, Mrs. Ackerly traces her ancestry far back in England. Her grandfather, Daniel Bacon, a son of Lord Bacon, came to the United States, and was one of the promoters of the railroad now known as the Lackawanna. Later he bought a farm in Luzerne County, Pa., comprising 157 acres, a portion of which he

later leased to a Mr. Silkman and Mr. Scranton, the present city of Scranton being named in the latter's honor. Mrs. Ackerly has an English coin dated 1804, amounting to about one dollar of our money, which was given her by her grandfather Bacon, who, on the death of his father had succeeded to the title. He died on his farm in the vicinity of Scranton, Pa., June 18, 1857. The Ackerly, Alexander, Bacon and Freeman families trace their ancestry back four hundred years to the nobility of Europe.

AGNEW, Henry, who has been active along several lines in Winnebago County, and whose building operations alone entitle him to a place in a work of this kind, is one of the substantial residents of Rockford. He was born in New Milford Township, February 26, 1850, a son of Hugh and Elizabeth (Mane) Agnew, natives of Ireland and Canada, respectively. The maternal grandparents were of English birth. Hugh Agnew came to Canada after attaining his majority, and there married, coming immediately thereafter to New Milford Township, this county, arriving here in 1844. He bought eighty acres of land, totally unimproved, and began at once to place it under cultivation. To this original purchase he added until he owned over 700 acres, a portion of which was in Ogle County. His death occurred in 1872. His wife died at Rockford in 1908. Their children were as follows: W. J., who is deceased, is survived by his widow, who lives at No. 1002 Franklin Place; Samuel James, who resides at Minneapolis, Kansas; Henry; George, who lives at Sycamore, Ill.; Elihu, who lives at Mankato, Minn.; and Ida, who is Mrs. Riley J. Merrifield, of Minneapolis, Kas.

Henry Agnew attended the country schools, the common and high schools of Rockford and the Rockford Business College. He remained with his parents until his marriage, when he rented a farm of 110 acres in New Milford Township, south of the Kishwaukee River. Later he bought this farm and added ninety acres and lived upon it until 1882, when he moved to Rockford and conducted a grocery business for a short time. After selling it, with C. W. Dempsey he bought a well-drilling outfit and drilled wells throughout a territory extending for many miles in every direction from Rockford, and so continued until 1908, when he sold his interests to his partner. Since then he has been engaged in building houses, selling all when completed with the exception of his own fine residence, at No. 1736 Cumberland street.

On February 26, 1872, Mr. Agnew was married to Margaret Beatty, born September 15, 1851, in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., a daughter of James and Jane (Woodside) Beatty, who came west and settled in the vicinity of Woodstock, McHenry County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Agnew have had three children, namely: Sadie, who married R. E. Doxsee, lives at No. 1728 Cumberland street, Rockford, and has two children, Henry L. and Margaret I.; Merrill Hugh, who lives at Elgin, Ill., married Myrtle Getting; and

Mina, who is deceased. While living in New Milford Township, Mr. Agnew served as township collector for a year, as school director for three years and as constable for three years, being elected on the Republican ticket. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and is as popular in that order as he is with the public at large.

ALEXANDER, James. It must be very gratifying to the men who have served long and faithfully in any capacity to have their efforts rewarded, and it is acknowledged that the officials of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company show their appreciation of their men in a substantial manner. One of those whose long service is now being recompensed by a pension, and the respect of his old associates, is James Alexander, of Rockford. He was born at London, England, May 28, 1850, a son of Robert and Hannah (Took) Alexander, natives of England. The father came to the United States in 1852, locating at Madison, Wis., where he became owner of several teams and the proprietor of a teaming business. When he had made a home for them, the mother and children joined the father at Madison.

After attending the public schools of Madison, Wis., James Alexander, at the age of fourteen years, began to be self supporting by working in a photograph gallery, owned by John Fuller. After two years there he began driving a delivery wagon for W. J. and F. Ellsworth, grocers. One year later he became one of their clerks. When he was eighteen years old he began his railroad career as a freight brakeman on the Madison Division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, and after two years was promoted to be fireman on the same division. Two and one-half years of faithful service as a fireman brought him promotion in 1873 to be locomotive engineer, and he was sent to Harvard, Ill., where he remained until 1880. He then took a year's leave of absence, when, for the following two years, he was located at Baraboo, Wis. In 1884 he was transferred to Rockford, on the Wisconsin Division, running between Kenosha and Rockford as a passenger and freight engineer, and so continued until August 1, 1915, when he was retired on the pension list.

On June 13, 1871, Mr. Alexander was married at Madison, Wis., to Eva Wilson, a daughter of William H. and Jane (Clark) Wilson, born at New York City. They had four children, namely: Jennie, who is Mrs. Walter H. Stewart of Sacramento, Cal.; Josie L., who is Mrs. Archie H. Short of Rockford, has two children, Robert and Audrey L.; and May and Susan, both deceased. Mr. Alexander is a Methodist in religious faith. His political convictions make him a Republican. Fraternally he belongs to the B. of L. E. of Chicago, No. 96. Just recently Mr. Alexander has bought a comfortable residence, surrounded by two acres of land, just north of Rockford, in Guilford Township.



Charles H. Richardson

ALLEN, Edgar C., vice president of the Rockford Illustrating Company at No. 130 N. First street, Rockford, is one of the substantial and reliable business men of the city and one who stands very high in public esteem. He was born at Belvidere, Ill., April 9, 1884, a son of H. W. and Ida (Carry) Allen. The parents were born at Castile, N. Y., and they came west in 1882, locating at Belvidere, Ill., where the father was a grocer for a number of years. Subsequently he was a salesman for Sprague, Warner & Company of Chicago, and maintained his connections with this big house for a quarter of a century. Finally he located at Rockford, where he died in 1911, aged fifty-five years. The mother survives. They were long connected with the Baptist church. In politics the father was a Republican.

Edgar C. Allen was reared and educated at Belvidere and Rockford, and his first work was obtained with the B. F. Barnes Company as a machinist. In 1903 he established his present business, and in the years which have followed, he has built it up to very gratifying proportions.

In 1909 Mr. Allen was married to Miss Verna Cleveland, a daughter of E. A. and Ella (Bradley) Cleveland of Belvidere. At one time E. A. Cleveland was owner of the Belvidere Spring Bed Company, but is now retired. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have one child, Louise Jane. Mr. Allen is an excellent example of the capable, self-reliant men of this locality, and his prosperity is self earned, and richly deserved.

ALLEN, John L., whose methods and success in farming have gained him an enviable position among Winnebago County agriculturalists, was born in Center County, Pa., May 12, 1866, a son of J. H. and Mary (Fish) Allen. J. H. Allen and wife were born in the same county and there were married. J. H. Allen engaged in railroad work as a conductor on the Pennsylvania Central Railroad until 1875, when he became otherwise associated for a year. The next change was made when he moved to Stephenson County, Ill., in 1886. He died in 1903, aged sixty-four years. He was an Odd Fellow, and a Knight of Pythias, and belonged to the G. A. R. Post at Freeport. During the Civil war, J. H. Allen enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served until 1865. His wife died in 1892, aged fifty-seven years.

John L. Allen's boyhood was spent in the various places to which his father's duties took the family, and he was mainly on a farm until fifteen years old. He then entered the Northern Illinois College, from which he was graduated, following which he taught school in the state of Nebraska for a year. Returning to Illinois, he engaged in railroad work with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad for two years, and then for twenty-three years was with the Illinois Central Railroad. Mr. Allen then went into a horse business for several years, when he was placed in charge of the rail-

road station at Woodford, Wis., which position he held for eighteen years. He then resigned and re-entered the horse business, but after a year moved on the farm he now owns in Roscoe Township. Fraternally he is an Odd Fellow.

On November 12, 1889, Mr. Allen was married to Miss Flora May Andre, a daughter of George and Mary (Kline) Andre, both natives of Philadelphia, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have five children: Hazel May, who married G. R. Davis, of Argyle, Wis.; and Vernon E., Miles Dewey, John Henry, and Grace Blanch. Mr. and Mrs. Andre came to Illinois from Pennsylvania in 1859, locating at Orangeville, Stephenson County, where Mr. Andre carried on a tailoring establishment. In 1861 he enlisted in the Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry for service during the Civil war, and was honorably discharged in 1865, following which he returned home and spent a year at Monroe, Wis. From there he came to Rock City, this county, where he died in 1888. The mother of Mrs. Allen died at the home of her son-in-law, Mr. Allen, in Woodford, Wis., having lived there for nine years. Mr. Andre was a member of the G. A. R. Both the Allen and Andre families are well known and highly respected.

ALLEN, Romaine E. Rockford is the home of some of the most reliable business establishments in the state, and one that is recognized as belonging to this class is Allen's "Most Everything" Store, at No. 120 W. State street, of which Romaine E. Allen is proprietor and manager. He was born at Rockford, October 2, 1883, a son of William H. and Amy F. F. (Emerson) Allen, the latter being a daughter of D. L. Emerson, who was a traveling salesman with the Emerson-Brantingham Co., and died in 1911, aged ninety years. The mother of Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Emerson, died in 1912, also aged ninety years.

William H. Allen was born near Black Hawk Park, Rockford, and Mrs. Allen was also born in this city. During his earlier days William H. Allen was a grocer but later embarked in a crockery business in which he has been interested ever since, in 1911 going to St. Paul, Minn., where he is engaged in a wholesale glassware and crockery business with Burley & Tyrell Co., being manager of the hotel department. He is a Knight Templar, a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner, and he belongs also to the Royal Arcanum. In politics he is a Republican.

Romaine E. Allen was reared and educated at Rockford, and upon leaving school went with the C. F. Henry Co., at State and Main streets, this concern being a clothing house, and continued with it for fifteen years, during his last five years being its secretary and treasurer. He resigned, in July, 1914, and bought the business of E. R. Elliott, October 15, 1914. He carries a complete stock, and his business connections make it possible for him to offer specially desirable prices.

On June 27, 1906, Mr. Allen was married to Miss G. Helen Parriott, a daughter of John C.

Parriott. Mr. Allen is an Elk. The family residence is at No. 1329 Boilvin avenue.

ALLING, David D., page 649.

AMMON, Philip C., a member of the firm of Ammon & Sons, plumbers, at No. 108 Second street, is one of the active business men of Rockford, and one who deserves his present prosperity, having earned it himself. He was born August 5, 1865, at Cleveland, Ohio, a son of Rudolph and Elizabeth (Beirboun) Ammon. Rudolph Ammon was born in Germany, near Berlin, as was his wife, and there they were educated and married. The father learned the trade of a moulder, and when he came from Germany to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1862, he found ready employment at his trade with the Malleable Iron Works Company. Later he embarked in a grocery business on Sixty-fifth street, and carried it on for some years when he retired and lived in the vicinity of St. Clair, until his death in 1886, aged fifty-eight years. The mother died in 1882, aged forty-five years. The father was a Republican in politics.

Philip C. Ammon was educated at Cleveland, Ohio, and there learned the moulder's trade. He first worked for C. C. Dustoe with whom he remained for two years, then went to Chicago and worked for the firm of Kelley Bros., for one year, as a plumber. Following this he went to Nebraska and for eighteen months was with Duncan Wallace, plumber, on Sixteenth street, Omaha. Mr. Ammon then came to Rockford and was with Maynard Bros. for one year, and then started with the Springes-Gregory Company, as a plumber, and remained with this concern for twenty-five years, when Mr. Gregory died and Mr. Ammon started in business for himself at No. 514 E. State street. After three years, in 1915, he moved to his present location, where he has a large trade.

In 1886 Mr. Ammon was married to Miss Alice Foley, a daughter of Michael Foley, of Shullsberg, Wis., where her parents were engaged in farming upon an extensive scale and were among the early settlers of that part of Wisconsin. Mrs. Ammon died at the age of forty-seven years, in 1913. She and her husband were the parents of five children, as follows: Carl H., Roy P., who married Edith Johnson; Philip R., Alice E., and Francis E. Mr. Ammon is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a Republican but his time and attention have been so engrossed with his business cares that he has had no time for public affairs outside of performing the duties of good citizenship.

ANDERSON, A. E., president of the Star Tea and Coffee Company at No. 216 Seventh street, Rockford, is one of the responsible and capable business men of the city, and one in whom implicit confidence is placed. He was born May 1, 1870, in Kane County, Ill., forty miles west of Chicago, a son of Carl and Sophia (Carlson) Anderson. Carl Anderson, his father, was born

in Westergotland, Sweden, in 1823. In 1869, with his family, he left Sweden for the United States, and they located at St. Charles, Ill., where he bought land and operated it for a number of years. On account of ill health he was finally forced to retire from farm work and came to Rockford, where for eighteen years he lived with his son, A. E., who faithfully and willingly cared for him until his death, which occurred January 11, 1914, when he was ninety-one years old. Carl Anderson was a member of the Lutheran church of Lilly Lake, Ill., and a faithful worker in its ranks. In politics he was a Republican.

A. E. Anderson attended the public schools of Kane County until he was twelve years old, then went to Sycamore, Ill., and there spent two years. On March 15, 1884, he started on foot for Rockford, and walked the entire distance from Sycamore to this city. There he obtained a position with the old Rockford Bolt Company and remained with this concern for a short time. He was an ambitious lad and seeing better opportunities with the R. W. Crum Lumber & Fuel Company, went with them as teamster, and later on was made manager of their yards, continuing with them for seven years and rendering faithful service. In 1893 he took a position with the Forest City Baking Company, held it for a year, and then went into a butter and buttermilk business for himself. After continuing alone for seven years he took a partner, Alfred Wessman, and they continued together for the next twelve years, when they branched out and added the handling of teas and coffees, and located at No. 624 Seventh street. A year later they bought out the Cherry Valley Creamery, and still later the Irene Creamery Company. Mr. Anderson took charge of the creamery part of the business, and his partner assumed charge of the tea and coffee business. In 1907 Mr. Anderson disposed of his interest in the tea and coffee business, and engaged in handling real estate in conjunction with operating his creameries until 1912, when he sold to C. M. Waite of Belvidere, Ill., and to Mr. Wessman, and still later retired. For some time thereafter he traveled extensively for his health, visiting twenty-six states. Upon returning to Rockford, on September 24, 1914, he became president of the Star Tea & Coffee Company at No. 216 Seventh street. He served for four years as alderman of the Second Ward, being elected on the Republican ticket. He is a director of the Swedish-American Bank, having held that office since 1912. The First Lutheran Church of Rockford holds his membership.

On October 20, 1892, Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Emma Lundquist, a daughter of Andrew and Anna Lundquist, of Pecatonica, Ill., natives of Westgotland, Sweden. They came to the United States on the same vessel that brought over Mr. Anderson's father. Upon their arrival in Winnebago County, they settled at Pecatonica, where Mr. Lundquist began as a shoemaker, but later became a dealer in boots and shoes, and continued in business until his

death in 1896. Mrs. Lundquist is still living, and makes her home at Pecatonica. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson became the parents of the following children: May G., who is bookkeeper for the E. W. Clothing Company; Edna F., who is at home; Francis B., who is stenographer and bookkeeper in the Swedish-American National Bank; and Nellie E., who is attending the high school at Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson own their beautiful residence at No. 703 S. Third street which he erected. Although he was hampered by lack of means at the start, Mr. Anderson has made a success of his life. He has proved himself a dutiful son, a devoted husband and father, and a public-spirited citizen, and his prosperity is well merited.

ANDERSON, Daniel, foreman of the finishing department of the Rockford Frame & Fixture Company, is not only one of the company's expert workmen, but also a stockholder, and owns his residence at No. 1407 Sixteenth avenue, so that he is rightly included in the list of substantial men of Rockford. He was born in Sweden, in October, 1861, and there educated and taught farming and cabinetmaking. Until 1895 he was employed in his native land along these two lines, but in that year came to the United States in search of better conditions. Upon his arrival in this country he came to Rockford and began working for the East Rockford Mantel Company, but two years later left that concern for his present one. In 1904 he was made assistant foreman, and in 1910 he was made foreman and has held that responsible position ever since, justifying the confidence reposed in him.

Mr. Anderson was married in Sweden to Stina M. Johnson, and their children are as follows: Carl, Axel W., Josie, John, Oscar, Clarence, Minnie, Henry and Frank. Mr. Anderson belongs to the North Star Society. In politics he is a Republican. A hardworking, thrifty man he has risen steadily and is thoroughly respected by all who know him. He and his wife are justly proud of the fact that they have six hearty grandchildren.

ANDERSON, Edwin George, chief clerk of the Rockford & Interurban Railroad, Rockford, with residence at No. 2422 Fourteenth avenue, is a native son of the city, and a young man of unusual promise, whose advance has been rapid and deserved. He was born October 16, 1892, a son of John F. and Hulda (Sandeén) Anderson. His parents were born in Westergotland, Sweden. In young manhood the father came to the United States, and located at Rockford where he became associated with the Forest Furniture Company, continuing this connection for a number of years, when he went with the Central Furniture Company. At present he is with the Rockford Frame & Fixture Company, and is valued by his concern. He is a Republican in politics, and he and the mother are consistent members of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford. The mother came to the

United States with old family friends, and located at Rockford. The parents had five children, as follows: Edwin George, Henry L., Reynolds C., Roy F. and Paul G.

Edwin George Anderson was reared and educated, and began his business career as an employe of the Standard Woodworking Company, and maintained that connection for two years. Realizing the desirability of a commercial training, he then attended Brown's Business College for a year, and then was with the Moffatt Cigar Company for a short period. His next position was with the Rockford Drilling Machine Company, but at the expiration of ten months, he resigned to accept his present position, which he has acceptably filled since January, 1911. He is a Republican. His religious upbringing and convictions make him a Lutheran, and he belongs to the First Lutheran Church of this city. A reliable, industrious and thrifty young man, Mr. Anderson stands very high in public estimation.

ANDERSON, Elvin R., manager of the Anderson Bros. Grocery, at No. 214 Horseman street, Rockford, is an example of the progressive young business man of his generation. He was born at Pecatonica, Ill., November 2, 1885, a son of Charles and Matilda Anderson, natives of Westergotland, Sweden, who came to the United States early in life, locating in Pecatonica Township where they bought land, and were farming people. Both survive but in 1904 the father retired, but they still live on the farm. In politics he is a Republican. Both he and wife belong to the First Lutheran Church of Pecatonica.

Growing up at Pecatonica, Elvin R. Anderson was educated in its schools, and was taught to be industrious and thrifty. When he began his business career, he engaged with A. W. Day, a druggist of Pecatonica, and remained with him a year, leaving to engage with the Condensed Milk Company, and after two years, was with the Pecatonica Produce and Supply Company. Leaving at the expiration of two years, he went to Sharon, Wis., where he engaged in the confectionery business for two years. Coming back to Winnebago County, he embarked in a grocery business at Rockford at No. 1333 Blaisdell street, and later bought the business of Hewett Moore, moving into his premises where he still remains, taking possession October 20, 1914. His brother is his partner, and they are doing a very large business. In politics he is a Republican. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen, while his religious affiliations are with the First Lutheran Church of Rockford.

In 1909 Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Hilda Mortensen, a daughter of K. P. and Catherine (Larson) Mortensen, natives of Denmark, who, on coming to the United States at an early day, bought land in the vicinity of Oregon, Wis., and improved it. Later they moved to Brooklyn, Wis., and still later to Woodstock, Ill., where the father bought a farm, and he is also working at his trade as a mason. Both he

and his wife survive, and are consistent members of the Congregational Church. In politics the father is a Republican. His fraternal associations are with the Modern Woodmen of America. The Mortensen family is a well known and highly respected one at Woodstock.

Mr. Anderson is a man who enjoys universal respect and confidence, and he is essentially a self made man, having honestly earned all he now possesses through his own, unaided efforts.

ANDERSON, Gust, foreman of the fly finishing department of the Haddorff Piano Company, with residence at No. 1329 Sixth street, is one of the expert working men of Rockford and one who is well esteemed. He was born in Sweden, June 8, 1858, and there educated and taught the carpenter trade. Until 1883 he remained in his native land and then came to the United States, journeying direct to Rockford after landing in this country.

For the first two years after his arrival at Rockford Mr. Anderson was on a farm in the county, and then went to Minnesota, and worked at his trade in different places in that state for three years. After returning to Rockford he obtained employment as a cabinetmaker for the Standard Furniture Company, with which he remained for ten years. In 1902 he entered the employ of the Haddorff Piano Company as a cabinetmaker, and about 1909 was made foreman of his present department, his skill and ability bringing about this recognition.

Mr. Anderson was married to Hannah Gustafson, who is now deceased. Their children were as follows: Arline, Margaret and Elizabeth, all of whom are at home. Mr. Anderson belongs to the Swedish Baptist church, in which connection he stands well, as he also does in business and social life for he has those characteristics which command respect and win friends.

ANDERSON, Gust, one of the energetic farmers of Cherry Valley Township, is now operating ninety-seven acres of land on section 4, and proving his ability as an agriculturist. He was born in Sweden, September 13, 1869, and his parents were also natives of Sweden where they died. In 1893 Gust Anderson came to the United States, and made his way to Rockford that same year. He was engaged by the month by farmers until his marriage, in 1905, to Miss Esther Johnson, a daughter of Albert and Selma (Valentine) Johnson of Cherry Valley Township. Mr. Johnson was born in the United States, while Mrs. Johnson was born in Sweden, coming to the United States when thirteen years old. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson had four children, of whom Mrs. Anderson was the eldest, she having been born February 9, 1880.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are the parents of three children, as follows: Myrtle B., who was born December 29, 1905; Blanch, who was born August 20, 1907, died May 15, 1913, and is buried at Rockford; and Adelbert, who was born May 17, 1911. In politics Mr. Anderson is a Repub-

lican. He and his family belong to the First Lutheran Church of Rockford.

The farm on which Mr. and Mrs. Anderson reside is the property of Mrs. Johnson and all the buildings on it were erected by Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Anderson carries on general farming and stock raising. He milks twelve cows and sells the milk. His herd is of high grade stock, as are his six horses, and his hogs are of the Poland-China breed. His farm is all fenced with barbed wire, and the drainage is natural. His methods are modern and he is making a success of his work and stands high among his neighbors, as he deserves to, for he is a hard working, economical man and excellent citizen.

ANDERSON, Gust A., who is successfully operating a valuable farm in Pecatonica Township is one of the well known and enterprising agriculturalists of Winnebago County. He was born in this county, February 21, 1881, a son of Charles O. and Matilda (Johnson) Anderson, natives of Sweden, where the father was born June 6, 1844. He was a farmer, and in 1886 came to the United States, locating in Winnebago County in 1878. He is now living in the village of Pecatonica.

Gust A. Anderson was educated in the country schools, and for several years has served as a school director of the same. On March 6, 1904, Mr. Anderson was married at Rockford to Amanda C. Spejut, whose father is now living at Pecatonica, where he was street commissioner for several years, and politically well known. At present he is janitor for the Pecatonica school building. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have three children, namely: Alice, Hazel and Raymond. Both the Andersons and Spejut families are much respected in Winnebago County. They have mainly devoted themselves to the cultivation of the soil, and they have become authorities upon agricultural matters in general.

ANDERSON, Gust W., foreman of the beveling department of the National Mirror Works, of Rockford, resides at No. 1316 Parmllee street, and is one of the desirable citizens of the Forest City. He was born in Sweden, April 6, 1866, and there was educated.

In 1888, Mr. Anderson came to the United States and located immediately at Rockford, but from there later went to Ogle County, Ill., and worked on a farm there for eleven years, when he returned to Rockford and engaged with the Cream City Mirror Works, remaining with this concern for three years. He then went to work for the National Mirror Works, and for ten years was in its beveling department, then spent a summer in North Dakota and upon his return to Rockford was engaged by the Superior Mirror Works. On March 22, 1915, he returned to the National Mirror Works as foreman and is giving excellent satisfaction in that position.

Gust W. Anderson was married to Ellen C. Bergman and they have two children: Axel and Roy. He is a member of the Modern Wood-



W. A. Russell & Wife

men of America and the North Star Society, and Mrs. Anderson also belongs to the latter order. She and the children belong to the Swedish Baptist Church. Mr. Anderson owns his own residence and is a man of reliability in his neighborhood, standing well with all who know him.

ANDERSON, Ole H., one of the most successful farmers of Laona Township and present supervisor, was born on his present farm, on section 30, February 27, 1854, a son of Halvor H. and Christie Anderson, both natives of Norway. They met and were married in Wisconsin. The father was born in 1823 and came to America about 1840, and the mother came later. He was variously employed, his last work before he began farming being in the zinc mines of Wisconsin.

After his marriage Halvor H. Anderson came to Winnebago County, Ill., and entered forty acres of land in Laona Township from the government, and this is now owned by his son, Ole H. Later he entered 120 acres more and bought eighty acres, owning in all 240 acres. The land was all wild and there were no buildings upon it, but he put up a log house, and later replaced it with another one of logs, both being built near a spring. Subsequently he built a frame house. In order to clear his property he had to cut down the timber and grub out the stumps before he could till the land, living here until his death. He was one of the first in this locality who did his marketing at Milwaukee, to which place he drove with oxen, taking a week on the trip. The nearer market place was Belvidere, which was forty-four miles away, while Milwaukee was 100 miles away. He survived his wife, and both were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. He was a Republican in politics.

Ole H. Anderson was the fifth of the seven children born to his parents, the others being: Isabelle, who is deceased; a boy who died in infancy; Isabelle (II), who married a Mr. Nelson who died, and she married (second) O. H. La Rue, and now lives in Minnesota; Turena, who died when twenty-two years old; and Andrew and Jane, twins, the former of whom lives in Laona Township, and the latter died when two years old. Ole H. Anderson attended the schools of his district, and worked on the home farm, and a number of years prior to his father's death he purchased the homestead.

In May, 1888, Mr. Anderson was married to Helen M. La Rue, of Laona Township. They are members of the Lutheran church. In politics Mr. Anderson is a Republican and he has served as road commissioner, and in 1913 was elected supervisor and reelected to the same office in 1915. His family is one of the oldest in this part of the county, and he has spent his life here and is thoroughly identified with the interests of his neighborhood.

ANDERSON, Oscar W., engineer at the city water works of Rockford, with residence at No. 1576 Benton street, is a man of steadfast character and exceptional skill, whose appointment to his present position gave satisfaction to the public and insured it faithful service. He was born in Sweden, October 11, 1862, where he was educated and learned to be an engineer. He became superintendent in a paper factory, and also understood farming. In 1881 he came to the United States where he believed he would find better openings for a man of his ability. For some time after his arrival he was engaged as a locomotive engineer on a railroad in Louisiana, and then became engineer on a sugar plantation. After six months, he went to Texas and spent four years on a ranch in that state, when he returned to Sweden. After eleven months in his native land, he came back to America and joined his father who had located in Minnesota, and spent a year working for him. Mr. Anderson then bought a half interest in a threshing outfit, and operated it for three seasons, when in the spring of 1888, he came to Rockford, and, buying stock in the Rockford Desk Company, was made its engineer, holding that position for eighteen months, when he went with the Palace Furniture Company and remained with it for three and one-half years. In 1898 he was made engineer of the city water works, which position he has since acceptably filled.

In 1890 Mr. Anderson was married at Rockford to Annie E. Johnson, born in Sweden, and their children are as follows: Seaver W., Ruby A., and Norman. Mr. Anderson belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a Republican. Not only does he own stock in the Rockford Furniture Company, but two residences at Rockford, and is thus a man of means, and is held in the highest respect by all who know him.

ANDERSON, P. O., prosperous as a grocer, operating at No. 525 Seventh street, and active as a good citizen, is one of the representative men of Rockford and is held in highest esteem. He was born in Blekinge, Sweden, June 11, 1871, a son of A. J. and Lina (Peterson) Anderson. A. J. Anderson was also born at Blekinge and there followed farming. He died in 1910, aged sixty-five years. For a number of years he was a deputy sheriff, and was a man of prominence all his life. His wife died in 1878, aged thirty-six years.

Until 1889, P. O. Anderson lived in Sweden and there was educated and taught to be useful. Upon coming to the United States in 1889, he worked in the iron mines of Ishpeming, Mich., for two years, and then came to Rockford where he began working for the Rockford Chair Furniture Company, remaining with the firm for two years. He then clerked for Gustafson & Blomquist, clothiers, for four years and for the next year was with the Union Furniture Company, but left it for the Standard Furniture Company, where he was employed as a cabinet-

maker for three years. In 1901 he resigned and on account of ill health kept out of business for a time and traveled in his native land, but finally returned to Rockford, where he went with the Star Grocery Company for a year, and then, in 1904, established his present business, and has conducted it ever since, building up a fine trade.

On November 10, 1894, Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Sophia Blomquist, a daughter of C. J. and Anna Blomquist, a native of Westergotland, Sweden, who was brought to the United States by her parents in 1880, they locating at Rockford, where her father became one of the city's leading clothiers. For ten years Mr. Anderson has been president of the Swedish Mission church, and is held in highest esteem in it. For six years he has been assistant supervisor from his township. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson became the parents of six children as follows: Ralph M., Mildred G., Willard P., Ruth E., who died in infancy at Rockford; and Maynard E. and Norma J.

ANDERSON, Winfield L., secretary of the Rockford Bookcase Company, is interested in other concerns as well, and is included among the leading business men of Winnebago County. He was born at Rockford, May 1, 1887, and received his educational training in the public and high schools of his native city, and at Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill. Upon the completion of his education, Mr. Anderson began working for the Union Furniture Company as a bookkeeper and so continued until 1910, when he formed a connection with his present company, and has advanced steadily with it ever since. He owns stock in the Rockford Bookcase Company and in the National Lock Company, the Rockford Varnish Company, the Rockford Drop Forge Company, the Rockford Life Insurance Company, and the Archer Lumber Company. The residence of Mr. Anderson is at No. 609 College avenue. He belongs to Zion Lutheran church. In politics he is a Republican. Although a young man, he has had considerable business experience, and has proven his worth in every connection.

ANDREW, John, whose high standing in his neighborhood and careful and successful operations as an agriculturalist in Winnebago County entitle him to a place in this work, is one of the well known farmers of Argyle, Harlem Township, where his birth occurred April 30, 1872, he being a son of Charles and Deborah (McDonald) Andrew. Charles Andrew was a native of Argyleshire, Scotland, who came to the United States in early manhood. Some time thereafter, Deborah McDonald made the trip to Winnebago County with a party of friends who located at Argyle, where Mr. Andrew had settled. They subsequently were married and located on a farm in Harlem Township. There Mr. Andrew died when only thirty years old. His widow survives and resides here with her son John, who has not married.

John Andrew grew up on his present farm of 160 acres, and received his educational training in the schools of his district. A practical man, he has developed his property into a very valuable farm, and is recognized as one of the solid men of his section. His political influence is cast with the Republican party, although he does not seek public office. The Presbyterian Church of Argyle holds his membership and has the benefit of his support.

ANDREWS, Charles, one of the substantial business men of Rockford, is president of the Andrews Wire & Iron Company, and an important factor in the commercial life of the city. He was born in England, May 30, 1845, a son of George and Emma (Raynor) Andrews, both of whom died in England.

In 1870 Charles Andrews left England for Canada where he remained six years, and then moved to Detroit, Mich. After a year in that city, he came to Rockford, Ill., and here entered the employ of Lockwood & Lyman as a wire worker. For the following eight years he remained with that concern, and then established his present business, renting shop room from John Spafford, on the corner of Market and Madison streets. There he continued until his business so expanded that he found more room necessary and in 1890 he built on his present site. In January, 1893, his plant was totally destroyed by fire. He then incorporated as the Andrews Wire & Iron Company, and erected a large three-story frame building, to which additions have been made at various times, including the commodious office building in 1909. The product is principally wire goods, the sale of which extends over practically the civilized world.

In 1867 Mr. Andrews was married at London, England, to Emily Bradford, who died leaving a son, Charles, who is secretary and treasurer of the Andrews Iron & Wire Works. He married Marie Zuck and they have one son, Robert. Mr. Andrews was married (second) to Mary A. Collins of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, on June 7, 1872, and they have the following children: Arthur G., who was born at Hamilton, married Agnes Zuck; Alice M., who was born at Toronto, Canada, married George N. Grimes and they have three children, Margaret, Lawrence and Ruth; Alfred W., who was born at Detroit, Mich., married Stella Bate and their children are Elenor, Leon and Elizabeth; Emily T., who was born at Rockford, Ill., married R. McGraw; and Frank C., who was born at Rockford.

When he was a small boy Mr. Andrews began earning his living, working in a printing office from the age of thirteen to fifteen years. He then began learning wire working. Since the inception of his present business, a healthy and constant growth has been shown, and there is every prospect for continued prosperity. Mr. Andrews is a deacon in the Second Congregational Church.

ANDREWS, Charles, Jr. The Andrews Wire & Iron Company stands very high among the reliable manufacturing concerns of Rockford, and its present prestige is due to the earnest efforts of the men who are associated with it as its officials. One of these is Charles Andrews, Jr., secretary and treasurer, one of the live, virile young business men of Rockford. He was born September 12, 1869, at London, England, a son of Charles and Emily (Bradford) Andrews, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work.

Charles Andrews, Jr., was educated at Rockford and his interests are centered in this city. He has taken a very active part in Rockford politics, and has represented the Fifth Ward of Rockford in the city council. No one man has done more to secure improvements for the city and his work has been especially effective in regard to street paving.

Mr. Andrews was married at Rockford to Marie Zuck, and they have one son, Robert. The concern with which all his business career has been spent, is the one founded by his father, and he naturally understands thoroughly all its details. Such men as Mr. Andrews are very forceful factors in the securing and maintenance of good government and the betterment of any existing conditions.

ANDREWS, John J., superintendent of the Consumers Ice Company, with residence at No. 1526 Huffman boulevard, is one of the men who have helped to place Rockford on its present substantial footing, and the position he now holds has come to him in just recognition of his merits as a man and citizen. He was born at Marengo, Ill., January 12, 1878, and there received his educational training. Until he attained his majority, he worked for his grandfather on the latter's farm, and then came to Rockford. Until July 3, 1899, Mr. Andrews was variously engaged, always proving satisfactory, and in that year formed his connection with his present company, beginning as a helper on one of the ice wagons. From that humble beginning he gradually worked himself up by successive stages until on March 25, 1907, he was made its superintendent, and his services in this connection have been of such a nature that he has been so retained ever since.

While still living at Marengo, he formed an attachment which resulted in his marriage, on September 12, 1899, with Miss Alta A. Standish of Marengo. They have two children: Bernice S. and Leta E. Mr. Andrews is independent in politics. In addition to other interests Mr. Andrews owns city property and is a man of substantial means.

APPELHOLM, Gunnar E., proprietor of the sanitary and reliable bakery at No. 1228 Fourteenth avenue, is one of the leading men in his line in this part of Rockford, and a man who stands very high in public confidence. He was born in Nerki, Sweden, May 17, 1868, a son of August and Marie Appelholm. August Appelholm was born at Stockholm, Sweden, and his

wife was born at Gottenburg, Sweden, and they were married in the latter city. The father became manager of a telegraph company at Askevsund, Sweden, and remained in this position until his retirement. His death occurred in 1875, when he was forty-two years old. The mother died in 1878, aged thirty-eight years, and neither of these parents left Sweden.

Gunnar E. Appelholm spent his boyhood at Nerki and Askevsund and he was educated and learned the trade of a baker at the latter place. When he reached manhood, not being satisfied with conditions in his native land, he left it and for about three years was in several South American countries and was in México, when he went from there in 1889 to San Antonio, Tex., where he worked at his trade for six years. Then he went to Chicago, where he worked in various shops for six years and then came to Rockford and was employed in different bakery shops here until he established himself in business at No. 1319 Fourteenth avenue. After three and one-half years at that stand, he moved to his present one, having sold his first establishment, and built his present three-story structure at No. 1228 Fourteenth avenue. Here he operates one of the finest bakeries on the East side. He belongs to the Columbia Knights, Skandia Brotherhood, and the Svea.

In December, 1893, Mr. Appelholm was married to Miss Paulina Hersler, and they have two children, Elsie and Evert. A man of travel and wide experience, he has shown much enterprise in developing a fine business, and personally holds the respect of all who know him.

ARMSTRONG, Johnston W. The man who can intelligently operate his land is a valuable asset to any community, especially in these days when there is such a demand for farm products. One of these representative agriculturists of Winnebago County is Johnston W. Armstrong of Rockton Township. In 1852 he came to Winnebago County with his parents and has resided here continually since, with the exception of five years spent in the states and territories of the west. Returning from his western trip, he engaged in farming, in which occupation he has been fairly successful. He has ever taken an active interest in the public affairs of his town, having been elected to many of the township offices up to and including that of supervisor, but it is in his record as highway commissioner that he takes special satisfaction. Being one of the original good roads boosters he claims to have built more permanent bridges and culverts and to have made more good roads than any other commissioner in Winnebago County outside of the township of Rockford. He belongs to Rockton Lodge No. 74, A. F. & A. M., and Rockton Chapter No. 190, R. A. M. In every respect he is an excellent business man, progressive farmer and public-spirited citizen, and has rendered his community efficient service.

ARMSTRONG, Levi. Rockford has long been noted for the magnitude of its business houses

and this condition has attracted to this city some very enterprising men from other places who have brought capital with them and investing here have developed additional large concerns. One of the leading business men of Rockford is Levi Armstrong, whose clothing house, located at Nos. 315-17 West State street, is second to none in this city in size, convenience, equipment or stock. Mr. Armstrong was born January 22, 1852, in Carroll County, Ohio, and is a son of Dr. James M. and Nancy (Westfall) Armstrong. The father was a native of Scotland and the mother of Ohio. In 1864 they moved to Linn County, Iowa.

It was in Linn County, Iowa, that Levi Armstrong completed his preparation for college and in 1870 entered Cornell College, at Mount Vernon, and continued a student there for four years. He started in business in 1879 in the clothing line, at Waukon, Iowa, and from there, in 1892, came to Rockford. Here he was careful and cautious as an astute business man should be, looking about for a suitable investment for a time and then buying a small clothing house on his present location, with the intention of expanding as he found it prudent to do so. He has succeeded in his laudable ambition and now owns an establishment ranked with the leading ones in the county, it now being the largest exclusive clothing store in the city of Rockford. The main floor of his establishment is given over to attractive display of seasonable clothing, his good taste being shown in his selections, and the basement is made use of for trunks and storage.

On April 22, 1875, Mr. Armstrong was united in marriage, at Independence, Iowa, to Miss Anna C. McLaury, who was also a student for a time in Cornell College. She was born at Delhi, Delaware County, N. Y., and is a daughter of Robert and Margaret (Rowland) McLaury. She is a lady of education and refinement, is very active in the Woman's Club, and is an earnest worker in all benevolent movements in the Court Street Methodist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong have two children: Helen and J. Edwin, and four grandchildren. Helen Armstrong was born at Mount Vernon, Iowa, and is the wife of Emory C. Andrews, a business man of Chicago, and they have two children, Robert Armstrong and Wayne Andrews. J. Edwin Armstrong was born at Mount Vernon, Iowa. After being graduated most creditably from the Rockford High school, he spent one year at Madison, Wis. Developing business abilities of a high order, he was admitted to partnership by his father, in August, 1905. In 1905 he was married to Mary C. Mix, who died in 1907. They had one son born to them, John Mix Armstrong.

In 1910 Mr. Armstrong was married to Virginia Starr, and they have one daughter, Mary Elizabeth Armstrong.

Always a Republican, Levi Armstrong has been anxious for the success of his party in every campaign, but for himself has not desired

public office. He is essentially a business man and as such maintains high standards of business honor and is respected and esteemed by all who know him. For many years he has been identified with Masonry and belongs to the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Shrine, at Rockford and the Consistory at Freeport.

ARNOLD, John M., whose character creates respect and invites confidence for any enterprise with which he may see fit to associate himself, has borne well his part in the development of sound business methods in the city of Rockford. He was born at Wittenburg, Germany, January 5, 1859, a son of Gotlieb and Johanna Arnold.

John M. Arnold was educated in the public schools of his native place and when twenty years old he came to the United States, first locating at Elgin, Ill., where he was engaged in the hotel business for three years. In 1883 he came to Rockford and here was in business until 1909, when he retired. He is president of the Rockford Germania Gesang Verein and is much interested in this society.

On August 13, 1883, Mr. Arnold was married to Lisetta Lampert, born November 4, 1867, a daughter of Christof and Johanna (Hochhilder) Lampert. Mr. and Mrs. Arnold became the parents of eight children as follows: Jennie, born January 15, 1885, who married Rev. Theodore Due, and their children are Homer, born January 31, 1911, and Theodore R., born July 11, 1914; Otto, born April 10, 1887, who married Lillian Peterson, and they have one son, Harold, born April 17, 1910; Charles, born June 24, 1889, who married Bernice Ray, and they have one son, Eugene A., born August 1, 1912; Lillian, born February 28, 1891; Freda, born March 2, 1893; Maria, born March 3, 1895; Helena, born June 25, 1896; and John, born May 1, 1898. Mrs. Arnold died April 1, 1909, and is buried in the West Side cemetery. She was forty-two years old at the time of her demise. Mr. Arnold is a member of the Christian Union Church, and is highly esteemed in this congregation.

ASH, John B., one of the prominent business men of Rockford, and one who enjoys the full confidence of his associates, was born in New York City, June 1, 1858, a son of Matthew G. and Catherine (Blake) Ash. The father was born in Cornwall, England, in 1835, and the mother at Belfast, Ireland, in 1838. They were married in England in 1857, and immediately thereafter came to the United States. The father was a photographer. With Charles Vivian, Frank Langhorne and Richard Stirley, he assisted in organizing what was called the Jolly Corks, which later became the order of Elks. His death occurred at Havana, Cuba, in 1871, from an attack of yellow fever. The mother died at Ridgewood, N. J., in 1910.

In 1872 John B. Ash came to Geneseo, Ill., and worked as a moulder for a year, then went to Moline, Ill., in 1880 to Milwaukee, Wis., and was there associated with N. C. Thompson, as a



Shoan, A. Salen



Mathilda Salen

moulder. In 1885 he went into a book and stationery business at No. 325 E. State street, Rockford, but a year later became connected with the watch factory and continued with it until 1888, when he went to Springfield, Ill., to work in the watch factory at that point. He was also connected with the watch factory at Peoria, and that at Elgin, Ill., being one of the expert finishers at the latter. In 1893 he returned to New York City and became a salesman for the Nestles Food and Chocolate Suchard. In 1895 Mr. Ash became traveling salesman for a manufacturing jeweler at North Attleboro, Mass., and remained with that concern until it closed in 1897, at which time he embarked in business for himself as a wholesale jeweler and importer of ebony toilet goods. The later part of his business developed to such an extent that he discontinued the former, and now confines himself to the French Ivory and Ebony goods, which he sells to retail jewelers only.

On November 23, 1882, Mr. Ash was married to Loretta Ferguson, of Rockford, who died in 1905. She was a daughter of Samuel and Catherine (McCall) Ferguson of Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Ash had the following children: Edith Bell, who was born in 1883, married Leigh S. Martin of Portland, Ore., and they have two children, Elizabeth Loretta and Mary Eline; Robert E., who was born in 1886, lives at Otis Orchard, Wash., and married Agnes McDowell, a daughter of Dr. W. A. McDowell of Rockford, and they have two children, Caroline and Hurlbut. On October 5, 1908, Mr. Ash was married (second) to Julia B. Lange, born in Chicago in 1876, a daughter of John F. and Fredericka Lange, natives of Germany. Mr. Ash is a Mason in good standing, and has joined every branch of the order. He is a charter member of the old lodge of Elks, No. 64, and since 1887 has been a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. His success in life is all the more remarkable because his educational advantages were confined to five years attendance only in the public schools.

ASHTON, Andrew, page 934.

ASHTON, Willard H., president of the Ashton Dry Goods Company, located at 301-303-305 West State street, is interested in the general welfare of the community, as well as in his own particular field of activity. He was born at Durand, Winnebago County, Ill., March 2, 1869, a son of Andrew and Mary J. (Johnson) Ashton. Andrew Ashton was born at Argyle, Washington County, N. Y., and the mother, Mary J. Johnson, was born at Palermo, Oswego County, in the same state. In early manhood Andrew Ashton left his birthplace and located at Parish, N. Y., where he engaged in a general mercantile business for two years. About this time gold was discovered in California and in 1851 he and his younger brother, William, joined in the onward wave that rolled toward the Pacific Coast. He made the trip by way of the Isthmus of Panama and

upon his arrival in the Golden State began prospecting and so continued for four years. Upon his return he located at Durand, Winnebago County, Ill., opening a small general store, and he also engaged in the grain and stock business throughout northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin. He became one of the active factors in developing this section and gave much practical assistance to the neighboring farmers and to the community in general. When later he moved to Rockford, he retained his Durand interests, eventually, however, disposing of them.

Taking up his residence at Rockford in 1878, he started in business in the building at the corner of State and Main streets, later buying from David Wallock, the owner, the building which his business partly occupied. This was a three story brick structure, 66x100 feet, which in 1902 he tore down and replaced with a modern store and office building, and in which was now housed the old business, greatly increased in size, and newly incorporated under the name of the Ashton Dry Goods Company. In 1879, the year following Andrew Ashton's removal to Rockford, he secured the services of Mr. Julius A. Penny, an expert in draperies and carpets, and who for more than thirty years following was Mr. Ashton's right-hand man and of very substantial assistance in the conducting and developing of the Ashton store.

Andrew Ashton's independence in action and thought made him the leader of the political free lances of this section and in 1876 he was elected to the State Legislature upon the Independent ticket. He served the district at Springfield for two terms and in 1890 the same forces again brought strong pressure to bear and induced him to run for congress. When it is realized that the then Congressman Hitt's normal majority in one of the banner Republican districts of the State was 14,000 and that Mr. Ashton reduced that figure to a scant 500, his strength as a leader of the Independents will be appreciated.

Willard Ashton's more active association with the Ashton Dry Goods Company dates from the year following Andrew Ashton's death, which occurred in August, 1910.

ASPROOTH, Vernie O., manager of the Newark Shoe Store, at No. 312 W. State street, is one of the native sons of the city who, although still a young man, has already earned his place among the capable and successful business men of the county. He was born at Rockford, July 29, 1884, a son of Fritz and Emma (Bowman) Asprooth, the former of whom was born in Smoland, Sweden, the latter being a native of Rockford. The father was educated in his native land, and became a telegraph operator. He was twenty years old when, in 1877, he came to the United States. Locating at Rockford, he was first engaged with the Rockford Price Glove Company, and later with the Nelson Knitting Mills. Still later, he was appointed a mail carrier, and held the position for twenty years. At present he is in the employ of the Greenlee

Manufacturing Company, being a steady, reliable man who stands well with all who know him. He was married at Rockford to Emma Bowman whose parents were of Swedish birth. They came to the United States in a sailing vessel. After his arrival at Rockford, Mr. Bowman was a painting contractor until his death which occurred at Rockford, where his wife also passed away.

Vernie O. Asprooth attended the public schools until he was thirteen years old, and then went to work for the Van Duyer & Co.'s dry goods store, remaining with this concern for two years, then was a clerk for Harnett & Hall, shoe merchants, and was with this firm for four years. For the next two years he was employed by the Hemming Shoe Company. For five years he was with the E. & W. Clothing Co. in the shoe department, and his next connection was with the Armstrong Clothing Co., for five years, when he took charge, on March 4, 1914, of the Newark Shoe Store, at No. 312 W. State street, where he is maintaining a high order of service and building up additional trade relations.

On June 7, 1906, Mr. Asprooth was married to Miss Ora May Johnson, a daughter of Abner and Emma (Awe) Johnson, of Lena, near Freeport, Ill. Mr. Johnson is now a carpenter and contractor of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Asprooth have one child, Vernetta J. They reside at No. 730 N. Church street. Fraternally Mr. Asprooth is a Mason. His long and varied experience prepared him for his present position and he is justifying the good judgment of his employers in placing him in charge of their interests.

ATWOOD, Sylvester Gardner. While it is certain that a fair proportion of the wealth of Winnebago County comes from the immense manufacturing interests centered at Rockford, it is equally true that the agricultural activities have produced and are producing a vast aggregate for those interested in farming. One of the men who for years was a potent factor in the agricultural life of Winnebago County, and now living in honorable retirement at the county seat, is enjoying the fruits of his labors, is Sylvester Gardner Atwood. Mr. Atwood was born at Washington, Berkshire County, Mass., May 5, 1835, a son of Phineas and Hulda (Haskell) Atwood, of Massachusetts, the latter a daughter of Roger Haskell, a native of England.

Phineas Atwood was orphaned in infancy and was reared by a man named Gardner. He learned the trade of blacksmith, and he also engaged in farming and sheep raising. In 1845 he came to Winnebago County, Ill., and lived for a year in New Milford Township, but in 1846 moved to Harlem Township where he bought 100 acres of land, a portion of which was improved, all of it being prairie. He began farming it and later purchased other land. Nine of his ten children worked on this land, and then they all combined to get a farm for each one. The parents resided on the homestead until they died. Their children were as follows: Phineas H., who was born January 7, 1819, died January 23, 1892;

Harriet, who was born January 4, 1821, died May 23, 1868; Mary, who was born November 21, 1819, is deceased; Patience, who was born August 5, 1822, died August 16, 1902; David, who was born June 11, 1823, died September 22, 1904; Louise, who was born September 15, 1824, is deceased; Jonathan, who was born August 25, 1825, died in 1898; Hezekiah, who was born February 16, 1830, lives at Ames, Iowa; Bradley S., who was born January 7, 1832, died April 13, 1900; and Sylvester G., who was the youngest.

Sylvester Gardner Atwood attended the district schools in Massachusetts and in Winnebago County, and resided with his parents until his marriage in 1863, after which he located on a farm that joined his father's, consisting of thirty-seven and one-half acres. To this he kept on adding until he had eighty acres. He also bought 147¾ acres in Guilford Township. While conducting his own property he also operated his father's farm, this making over 400 acres under his management. The homestead came into his possession after the death of his parents. In 1896 he moved to Rockford where he now owns a four-family flat, on W. State street, and a two-family flat on Peach street, as well as vacant lots on Campbell avenue. When he first came to Rockford he rented his farms but subsequently sold them.

On October 8, 1863, at Beloit, Wis., Mr. Atwood was married (first) to Lydia Rosecrans, born at Troy, N. Y., who died in November, 1898. Mr. and Mrs. Atwood had the following children: William, who was born May 20, 1865, lives at Seattle, Wash.; Belle, who was born May 19, 1874, is Mrs. Eugene Frey, of Polo, Ill.; Gay, who was born in April, 1880, is Mrs. Horace Easton of Harlem Township. On October 31, 1900, Mr. Atwood married (second) Louisa Kellogg, born at Lawrenceville, N. Y., a daughter of Orson and Eliza (Smith) Kellogg, natives of Mt. Upton, N. Y., and Canada, respectively. In 1862 Mrs. Atwood came to Rockford where she was married (first) to Alexander Hartwell, born in Canada. He was a captain in the Union army during the Civil war, and following the conclusion of that conflict, conducted a meat market for many years, while she was engaged in a millinery business from 1865 to 1902, and then sold. The Hartwells had one daughter, Belle, who was born July 4, 1869, now Mrs. Willis L. Blinn, who lives with Mr. and Mrs. Atwood. Mr. Atwood belongs to the Christian Union Church. In 1894 he served as supervisor for Harlem Township. In politics he is a Republican. Fraternally he is a Mason, and he and his wife belong to the Eastern Star and White Shrine of Jerusalem. He is also a member of Harmony Grange of Harlem Township. The family residence at No. 1904 Harlem boulevard is owned by Mrs. Atwood.

BABCOCK, Francis Dwight Earl, one of the most intelligent and aggressive men of Winnebago County, whose broad experience is a guarantee of his careful judgment and keen insight

into conditions, was born at Marengo, Ill., August 12, 1872, a son of John Bartow and Marcia (DeWolf) Babcock. The father was one of the oldest publishers and editors of Illinois, for thirty-eight years editing and publishing the Marengo Republican. He, with the late Ben Shaw, of Dixon, and John R. Marshall, of Yorkville, were the three deans of Illinois newspaper men.

Until he was twenty years old, Francis Dwight Earl Babcock remained at Marengo, and then spent a year at Chicago. After returning home, he was with his father on the latter's newspaper for a time, then accepted a position at Kalamazoo, Mich., where he gained a valuable experience on a daily paper. Once more he returned to his old home and was in business with his father until 1905, when he sold and went to Belvidere, Ill., and was business manager of the Daily Republican of that place for seven years. He was then appointed secretary of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce, entering upon his duties April 1, 1913, and he still holds this important position.

In 1902 Mr. Babcock was married to Grace M. Hall, a daughter of Frank M. and Ella (Anderson) Hall. Mr. and Mrs. Babcock have one son, Robert Woodbury. Mr. Babcock belongs to the Elks, of which he was for one year esteemed lecturing knight. He also belongs to the Royal Arcanum, and at one time served this order as secretary. He was brought up in the Methodist faith, although he does not belong to any religious organization.

BAILEY, Clarence M., chief engineer of the city pumping station, with residence at No. 517 N. Third street, is one of the most reliable and conscientious men in the employ of the city of Rockford, and one who is devoting his time and talents toward rendering the people efficient and satisfactory service. He was born at Rockford, October 31, 1873, a son of Norton G. and Emert (Dickerman) Bailey. After completing his course at the public schools of Rockford Mr. Bailey took up some studies at Mrs. Carpenter's Academy.

After leaving school, Mr. Bailey learned the silverplating metal soldering trade and worked at it for five years, when he went with the General Electric Company, and was in the employ of this concern for nearly three years, as engineer. He then went with the Glucose Sugar Refining Company, and remained over two years. Then for a short period he was with Buckbar's seed plant as engineer, for a year with Nelson's Hotel as engineer, and in 1905 was made assistant engineer of the city pumping station, and June 1, 1912, was made chief engineer. During the past ten years Mr. Bailey has only had three days vacation, which is a somewhat remarkable record of continuous application.

On June 21, 1900, Mr. Bailey was married at Glencoe, Ill., to Catherine Holverson, a daughter of John and Sarah Holverson, and they have a daughter, Mildred G. who was born May 30,

1901. In politics Mr. Bailey is a Republican. His long and varied experience specially fitted him for the discharge of his present duties, and the city is to be congratulated upon securing the services of a man of Mr. Bailey's calibre.

BAKER, Edward H., page 657.

BAKER, George H., engineer of the Burson Knitting Company, is one of the skilled men of his profession at Rockford, and is held in high esteem by his employers and associates. He was born at Rockford, February 11, 1870, a son of William H. and Anna (Shannon) Baker, natives of Montreal and Toronto, Canada, respectively, and descendants of French and German stock.

Growing up at Rockford, George H. Baker was educated in its excellent schools, and after completing his education, was employed by neighboring farmers for three years. Mr. Baker had had experience in many lines. He entered the paper mills of Bradner & Smith in the capacity of boiler cleaner, being advanced through merit until he was foreman of a department, and continued with that firm for six years, in 1895 becoming a utility man in a churn factory. After several years in that capacity, he became foreman in a sugar refinery, leaving after eight months to go with the Rockford Paper Mill Company as engineer, and ten months later entered the Burson Knitting Company as fireman, but in ten months was engaged by the Illinois Sewing Machine Company as engineer. After a short period with this and other concerns, in 1911 he returned to the Burson Knitting Company as engineer, which position he still holds.

Mr. Baker was married to Minnie Kreipki, and they have several children. In 1898 Mr. Baker enlisted for service during the Spanish-American war, at Rockford as a member of Company H, Third Illinois National Guard, and participated in the Porto Rico campaign, and was in service from April until January of the following year. He belongs to the Spanish-American Association and the order of Owls. A hardworking, intelligent man Mr. Baker has earned his successive promotions and is a man to do credit to any community.

BAKER, Ira W., page 657.

BANCROFT, Charles A., editor of the Durand Gazette, of Durand, and the Davis Leader, is one of the men largely instrumental in shaping public opinion in Winnebago County. He was born in Hennepin County, Minn., September 17, 1859, a son of Daniel W. Bancroft, who was reared in Vermont, and after his marriage moved to Hennepin County, Minn., where he engaged in farming. When Charles A. Bancroft was two years old his mother died, and the father returned to Vermont, where he lived until his own death.

From the time of his mother's death until he attained his majority, Charles A. Bancroft lived in various homes, and until he was fifteen years

old these were located in country regions. He attended the country schools and when seventeen years old began learning typesetting. His business career, however, was interrupted when he was nineteen years old by the death of his foster parents, and for the succeeding two years he conducted their homestead, but then he resumed work at his trade. Until 1884 he worked as a journeyman printer, but in that year established the *Elkton Herald* at Elkton, So. Dak., selling it in two years to buy the *West Liberty Enterprise*, at West Liberty, Iowa. In 1893 he again became a journeyman printer, but seven months later leased the *Buda Plaindealer*, in Bureau County, Iowa, and conducted it a year. He then moved to Ashton, Iowa, and founded the *Ashton Gazette*, conducting it until 1904, when he sold it to Ralph J. Dean, the present owner, and ten days later bought the *Franklin Grove (Ill.) Reporter*. In 1907 Mr. Bancroft sold this paper and bought the defunct *Durand Clipper*, rechristening it the *Durand Gazette*, and has since continued to issue it. In 1911 he founded the *Davis Leader*, of Davis, Stephenson County, Ill., which is published in the *Gazette* office, both papers being conducted along neutral political lines, although personally Mr. Bancroft is a Republican. When Mr. Bancroft bought the *Clipper* plant it was not worth over \$750, and the circulation was practically nothing. It has now between 1,100 and 1,200 subscribers and the plant and equipment is valued at \$4,500. His religious connections are with the Methodist church. Fraternally he is a Mason, an Odd Fellow, Knight of Pythias, and member of the Mystic Workers.

In 1885 Mr. Bancroft was married in Johnson County, Iowa, to Miss Henrietta D. Cornwall, who died in 1887, leaving a son, Clyde H. In 1890 Mr. Bancroft was married (second) to Mary L. John, of West Liberty, Iowa, and they have two children, namely: Maurice H., who is employed by his father; and Zenas D.

Mr. Bancroft has done remarkably well and deserves much credit for what he has accomplished. Since locating at Durand he has been an active factor in boosting the village and securing many desirable improvements. A man of high ideals, he also possesses sound judgment and practical notions for carrying them out, and he may be relied upon to support any movement looking toward progress in any direction.

BANNEN, Rev. Hugh Martin, the beloved pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church of Rockford and a man of rare scholarly attainments and personal magnetism, is one of the striking figures in the religious life of the city that is now his home. He was born in Northumberland County, Pa., October 27, 1859, a son of James and Elizabeth (Martin) Bannen, and grandson of James Bannen. The latter came to the United States from the North of Ireland. The mother of Rev. Bannen came of Scotch-Irish and German descent.

Rev. Hugh M. Bannen laid the foundation for

his educational training in the public schools of his native county, and as soon as he was able to obtain a teacher's certificate, he taught school for three winters. In 1881, he went to Kalamazoo, Mich., but seven weeks later left Michigan for Illinois, in order to begin his college work at Mt. Morris. After two years at that point, he went to Carthage, Ill., and was graduated from the college at that place, in 1888. From that institution he went to the Theological Seminary, Gettysburg, Pa., and following his graduation therefrom, located at Princeton, Ill., where he was placed in charge of a small mission. His first sermon as a clergyman was preached at that point, and he not only succeeded in spiritual matters, but demonstrated his ability as an organizer, and built a church. In 1896 he was called to Rockford to take charge of Trinity Lutheran Church, a newly organized mission, and has continued in charge ever since, developing the resources of the church, and increasing its religious power very considerably.

On May 30, 1888, Mr. Bannen was married at Mt. Carroll, Ill., to Cora E. Maloney, who was a student at Mt. Morris during his term at that college. She is a daughter of James and Frances (Bashaw) Maloney, the latter of whom was born in Canada of French and English parents. Mr. and Mrs. Bannen have four children as follows: Mrs. Grace R. Farnsworth, who resides at La Grange, Ill.; Howard J., who is a printer of Rockford; Hugh F., a teacher of physics and chemistry in the high school at Paris, Ill., and Robert William, who is pursuing a college course.

BARB, Abraham M., who has directed his efforts very successfully along varied lines, is justly numbered among the enterprising men of Rockford. He was born in Lewis County, W. Va., in 1864, a son of William and Anna Elizabeth (Riggs) Barb, both of whom died in Lewis County. Attending the public schools of West Virginia, and making himself useful to his parents, Abraham M. Barb grew to manhood in his native place, where he continued to live until he was twenty-three years old. At that time he went to Topeka, Kas., and worked in hotels and restaurants for four years, when he located at Burlington, Iowa, and continued in the same line for two more years. He then came to Rockford, and for two years was associated with the restaurant business here, when he opened a restaurant for himself at the Nelson House, on S. Main street, and conducted it for three years. After selling it, he went to Harrison, Ill., and conducted a grocery for six years, then sold and returned to Rockford and conducted a grocery in this city for two years, on Kilbourne avenue. In the fall of 1914 he sold this business, and since then has been interesting himself in realty transactions, buying property, building upon it, and then selling.

In 1904 Mr. Barb was married to Alice Startup, born at Rockford, a daughter of William Startup, now deceased. Mrs. Startup sur-



Wm. S. Sanyer

vives and lives at No. 611 Acorn street, Rockford. Mr. Barb is a Democrat in his political opinions. The Modern Woodmen of America order, of Harrison, Ill., holds his membership, and has his interested support. A man of varied business experience, Mr. Barb is able to carry on his undertakings intelligently and profitably, and as he has earned all he possesses, deserves much credit for his success.

BARGREN, August Edward, chief of police of Rockford, and one of the most conscientious, efficient and experienced men the city has ever honored with this important office, has demonstrated his ability and forcefulness in handling the problems of his department, and has maintained his control over the law abiding and the law breaking contingents alike. He was born in Westergotland, Sweden, March 1, 1863, a son of Johu P. and Mary C. (Johnson) Bargren, natives of Sweden who came to the United States when Chief Bargren was five years old, and located at Rockford. Here the father worked as a laborer until his death in 1896, aged sixty-three years. His burial was in the Swedish cemetery. The mother still lives and is now eighty years old. These parents had the following children: Charles G.; John P.; Anna Christena, who died in 1897; Nellie, who is Mrs. John Peterson, lives at Mendota, Ill., her husband being an engineer on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad; and August Edward. It is a pleasant arrangement that permits the entire family with the exception of Mrs. Peterson, whose home is in another city, to live in one building, occupying different flats.

August Edward Bargren attended the public schools of Rockford, and after completing his educational training, learned the candy making trade, at which he worked for about eight years. He then was with the United States Express Company for three years, and with the Adams Express Company for two years. On May 5, 1900, he began his connection with the police department of Rockford, as on that date he was appointed a patrolman, and four years later, in 1904, was made chief of police, his long association with the department being marked by strength of purpose and unflinching devotion to duty.

On May 28, 1883, Chief Bargren was married to Josephine Spencer, a daughter of Alexander and Mary (Williams) Spencer, and they have two children, Howard Spencer and Lucille Isabelle, the latter lives at home. The former married Bell Curtis of Rockford. He is a watchmaker by trade.

Chief Bargren was one of the charter members of the local order of Elks, and also belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the Germania and the Svea Soner societies and the order of Red Men. The First Lutheran Church of Rockford holds his membership. There are few men who stand higher in general esteem than does Chief Bargren, for, although the duties of his office often compel him to proceed against those whom he knows well, his fairness and impartial ad-

ministration of justice have gained for him the utmost confidence and respect of all with whom he is associated in any way.

BARGREN, John. For a number of years the late John Bargren was employed with important business concerns at Rockford. He was born in Swedeu, May 17, 1830, a son of Andrew and Mary (Anderson) Bargren. Andrew Bargren and his wife were also born in Sweden and never left their uative land. They were farming people.

John Bargren's boyhood was spent in Sweden. He there was married to Mary Johnson, a daughter of John and Mary (Erickson) Johnson. In 1869 he brought his family to the United States and settled at Rockford, Ill. For sixteen years he was a foreman of the coal yards of Scott & Co., and then engaged with the Skandia Furniture Co., of Rockford. He was highly respected. When his health failed he retired, and he died July 19, 1893, aged sixty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Bargren had five children as follows: Charles G.; John P.; August, who is chief of police of Rockford; Nellie, who is Mrs. J. A. Peterson, and Anna, whose death occurred August 5, 1895. Mr. Bargren was a Republican. He belonged to the First Swedish Lutheran Church of Rockford. Mr. Bargren left his widow in comfortable circumstances. She passed away March 25, 1915, aged eighty-two years.

J. A. Peterson, who married Miss Nellie Bargren, was boru in Kane County, Ill., April 13, 1870, a son of Peter and Christine (Johnson) Peterson. Until he was of age, Mr. Peterson lived at Geneva, Ill., and then began working for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad as a fireman and is still in the employ of this road being now an engineer. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have one child, Dorothy Jane. Mr. Peterson's parents were born in Sweden but came to the United States in 1869, and located near Aurora, Ill. There they engaged in farming for two years when they moved to Geneva, Ill., and there the father died August 9, 1914, aged seventy-three years. The mother survives and is living at Geneva, Ill., being now sixty-eight years old.

BARKER, John. The business of writing insurance has become a very important factor in the commercial life of the country, and the men who are engaged in it have to be possessed of unusual qualities and be alert, resourceful and excellent judges of human nature. One of the men who has made a success of this line of endeavor, who is located at Rockford, is John Barker, representative of the American Insurance Company, successor to the Rockford Insurance Company. Mr. Barker was born at Terre Haute, Ind., August 15, 1834, a son of Ira and Margaret (Stewart) Barker, he born in New Hampshire, and she in Ross County, Ohio. In 1816 the father was brought by his parents to Fort Harrison, the trip being made on the Monongahela and Ohio rivers on a raft, and up the Wabash River in keel boats. Soon

after their arrival, the grandfather passed away. About the same time the Stewarts, the maternal grandparents, drove overland to Fort Harrison. General Warren of Revolutionary fame belonged to the paternal branch of the family and was first cousin of Sarah Ann Warren Barker, mother of Ira Barker.

After their marriage Ira Barker and his wife located in Vigo County, Ind. There Ira Barker became a farmer and contractor and put in four miles of the macadam on the national road. In 1848 he came to Illinois, locating in Ogle County, making the trip with teams. Not only did he engage in farming, but he also kept a hotel at Daysville until January 3, 1853, when he came to Rockford. After coming to this city he was city marshal and he also traveled for an insurance company. His death occurred October 2, 1889. His wife died July 12, 1876.

John Barker resided with his parents and was educated in the common schools and at a commercial college in Rockford, and also learned the harness-making trade, which he followed exclusively until 1863. In that year he became a solicitor of insurance, devoting a portion of his time to the work until 1868, when he decided to give all of his time to this line for the Rockford Insurance Company. He has traveled mostly over Illinois, and a good deal in Wisconsin, but since 1912 has confined his operations to Rockford. With the consolidation of interests that changed the Rockford Insurance Company into the American Insurance Company, Mr. Barker was retained as one of the trusted and efficient men.

On May 22, 1862, Mr. Barker was married to Margaret J. Holly, born at Paterson, N. J., February 27, 1835, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Rude) Holly, natives of Sussex County, N. J., where the grandfather, Timothy Holly, was also born. In 1836 the Holly family moved to Steuben County, N. Y., settling near Hammondsport, where they lived until 1864, and then came to Winnebago County, Ill. In 1869 they returned to New York, and the father died at Burdett, that state, in 1873. The mother died in 1847. Mrs. Barker came to Ogle County, Ill., in 1861 with friends, and remained there for a few months, and then came to Rockford, where she was married. Mr. and Mrs. Barker have two children: Elizabeth, who is the widow of T. H. Radcliff, of Howard, S. D.; and Jennie, who is Mrs. S. S. Hardisty of Cook County, Ill. In politics Mr. Barker is a Democrat. The Christian Union Church holds his membership. A Mason in high standing, he belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M.; Winnebago Chapter No. 24, R. A. M.; Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T.; and Oriental Shrine No. 5, W. S. J.; and he and his wife belong to the Eastern Star. He has held all the offices in the Blue Lodge except two, and is past master of his local lodge.

BARNES, Aubrey, manager, secretary and treasurer of the firm of W. F. and John Barnes, one of the substantial houses of Rockford, is a man

who carries out in his life the principles he has held since he began his business career, those of sterling honesty and uprightness of purpose. He was born at Rockford, September 30, 1872, and his educational training was received in this city, and at Amherst College, from which he was graduated in 1895, following which he returned to Rockford, where he became identified with his present house.

Mr. Barnes was married at Rockford to Katherine M. Keller, born at Bridgeport, Conn., and they have a daughter, Barbara T. Mr. Barnes belongs to the Elks, the Country Club, and is a member of one of the committees of the Rockford Manufacturers' and Shippers' Association. In politics he is a Republican. Although he casts his vote for the candidates of his party, Mr. Barnes does not otherwise take part in politics, as his business demands his time and attention. The Second Congregational Church holds his membership, and profits by his generosity. A sound business man and reliable citizen, Mr. Barnes stands well in his community.

BARNES, John, page 736.

BARNES, John S., vice president and superintendent of the W. F. & John Barnes Company of Rockford, is a desirable resident of this city, his home being on Guilford Road. He is one of the substantial business men of Winnebago County. He was born at Rockford, a son of John and Jennie E. (Parmalee) Barnes.

Educated in the grade and high schools of Rockford, Mr. Barnes was given excellent training for Princeton College, from which noted institution he was graduated in 1900. On returning to Rockford, he assumed the duties of vice president and superintendent of the firm above referred to, much of its present prosperous condition being due to his enthusiasm and keen business foresight.

Mr. Barnes was married at Providence, R. I., to Hope Walker of that city. A man of genial manner and social proclivities, Mr. Barnes enjoys his associations as a member of the order of Elks and the Country Club. While he votes the Republican ticket, he has never entered politics, but, however, takes a wholesouled interest in local affairs, and has rendered very efficient assistance as a member of the executive committee of the Home and Farm for boys.

BARNES, Joseph, one of the leading agriculturalists of Winnebago County, is highly esteemed in Harlem Township, where his farm is located. He was born in Washington County, Wis., June 1, 1859, a son of Peter and Helen (Mulling) Barnes. Peter Barnes was born in Germany, where he was educated, and when he was twenty-one years old he came to the United States, locating first in Washington County, Wis., where he bought 160 acres of land, and there he lived until his death in 1900, at the age of seventy-five years. The mother was born

in Buffalo County, N. Y., but her parents were both born in Germany, and came to the United States at an early day, locating first at Buffalo, N. Y., but later going to Washington County, Wis., when Mrs. Barnes was a young child. The maternal grandparents died in Washington County.

Joseph Barnes spent his boyhood in his native county, and upon leaving it came to Harlem Township, this county, where he worked as farm hand for a time. Later he rented a large farm, operated it for twelve years, and then bought a farm of 180 acres in the same township where he still lives. He has always been a very liberal contributor to charities, and is active in the good work of the Argyle Presbyterian Church. Fraternally he is a Modern Woodman. His political affiliations are with the Republican party.

In 1886 Mr. Barnes was married to Isabelle Ralston, a daughter of A. C. and Mary (Ralston) Ralston, at the Argyle Presbyterian Church, and they became the parents of three children, namely: Ralph E. and George R., both of whom are at home, and Ralston, who is deceased.

A. C. Ralston, father of Mrs. Barnes, was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, in 1815, and his wife was born there in 1830. He came to the United States with Dan Ralston and family in 1842, six weeks being consumed in crossing the ocean in a sailing vessel. After landing at New York City, the party went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where A. C. Ralston worked for the McCormick Reaper Company for eight years as a skilled carpenter. He also made violins and became famous for these instruments in later days. He was a fine musician and was in great demand at parties where music was wanted. Leaving Cincinnati after eight years, he came to Harlem Township, Winnebago County, Ill., and worked as a carpenter and also did contracting, being very useful even until his death in 1893, when he was eighty years old. Mrs. Ralston died in 1903, aged seventy-two years, and both were consistent members of the Argyle Presbyterian Church. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ralston, as follows: Mrs. Barnes; Peter, who was a musician of considerable note and a manufacturer of violins, died in 1880, at Argyle, Ill., aged twenty-four years; Martha, who is now living at Beloit, Wis.; Jennette Ralston, who lives at Caledonia, Ill.; Jane Potter, who lives at Mason City, Iowa; Molly Thornton, who lives at Oscuro, N. M.; John A., who died in 1867 at the age of ten months; Elizabeth Barnes Broadhead, who lives in Wisconsin, and one died in infancy.

BARNES, William Fletcher, Jr., proprietor and manager of the Barnes Automobile Company of No. 207 South Court street, Rockford, is not only a reliable dealer in automobiles, but is an expert in the handling of them, and his judgment is accepted unquestioningly by those who appreciate this kind of service. He was born at Rockford, Ill., January 25, 1884, a son of Wil-

liam Fletcher and Julia (Gould) Barnes. The father was born at Mt. Morris, N. Y., and the mother at London, Ohio. In 1865 the father, after having been educated in his native state, came to Illinois and located at Aurora, where he was in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad for a time, but left that city and came to Rockford where he engaged with the Emerson Manufacturing Company. Subsequently, with his brother John, he formed the W. F. & John Barnes Manufacturing Company, on the water power, later taking in another brother, Frank Barnes. The firm built a large plant on the east side of the river. In 1905 the father sold his interest to H. L. Pratt of Brooklyn, N. Y., and is now living retired at No. 813 North Main street, Rockford. The mother also survives. Fraternally William F. Barnes, Sr., is a Mason, a Shriner, and belongs also to the Elks. The Christian Union Church holds his membership and has his support.

William Fletcher Barnes, Jr., attended the public schools of Rockford, Lake Forest Academy, Cascadella Preparatory School at Ithaca, N. Y., and Cornell University. He then embarked in an automobile business at Chicago with the Ralph Temple Company, which was the branch in that city of the Franklin machines. Later he came to Rockford and for two years was assistant superintendent for the W. F. & John Barnes Company, going then to San Antonio, Tex., to take charge of the San Antonio office of the International Motor Sales Company, and continued there for three years. He then returned to Rockford and organized the Barnes Motor Sales Company, handling the Ford and Studebaker cars for three years, when he sold to the Williamson Motor Company of Rockford. Following this Mr. Barnes organized his present company of which he is president, owner and manager, and has developed a fine business.

In every line pertaining to automobiles Mr. Barnes has had experience. He drove a racing car for a time for the Mercer Automobile Company of Trenton, N. J., and also while living in Texas. He bought the first automobile that was ever shipped west of Chicago, on August 16, 1895, and was also the first automobile dealer at Rockford. At present he handles the King, Hupmobile and Dort cars. Mr. Barnes is a valued member of the Elks. In 1912 Mr. Barnes was married to Miss Cecille McCaffrey.

BARNETT, Jay A., engineer for the Burson Knitting Company, Rockford, with residence at No. 2215 N. Main street, is recognized as one of the most reliable men in his line in the city, and stands well with his associates and fellow citizens generally. He was born in Grant County, Wis., April 4, 1857. After attending the schools of his native place, he took a three years' course in the Wisconsin State Normal School. His first work was with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, as a laborer, but he was soon given the position of timekeeper. Later he went with the Canadian Pacific Railroad as foreman

of a construction gang, and held the same position with the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad in some of their construction work in Illinois. In 1887 he went to Iowa and worked for two years as walking boss for a contractor.

After coming to Rockford Mr. Barnett entered the employ of the Rockford Gas & Coke Company as engineer, and on leaving this firm he went with the Straw Paper Company and continued there for nearly three years. He then was engaged with the Rockford Sugar Refining Company as engineer for seven years, leaving that company to go with the Rockford Electric Company. Following this he worked for the Rockford Water Works Company and for eleven years more was with the Rockford Woolen Mill Company. In 1911 he came to the Burson Knitting Company as night engineer and has charge of all the machinery. The position is one of responsibility.

On July 1, 1891, Mr. Barnett was married to Ella N. Keeland, born in Wisconsin, and they have had two children: Grace L., who is a teacher in the Rockford public schools, and lives at home, and one who died in infancy. Mr. Barnett is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal Neighbors and the Rockford Nursing and Hospital Association. In addition to other interests Mr. Barnett owns his residence. He takes pride in helping maintain the prestige of his neighborhood and city and in every way is a worthy citizen.

BARNUM, Daniel, page 661.

BARTLETT, Edgar E., publisher of the Rockford Register-Gazette, has devoted his life to newspaper business. He was born in Kalamazoo, Mich., November 30, 1856. He began his career as advertising solicitor on the Kalamazoo Telegraph in February, 1879, and in two years became its business manager. In 1888 the Telegraph was purchased by E. N. Dingley and Mr. Bartlett bought the Kalamazoo Herald, but before he assumed control, the latter paper was merged with the Telegraph, and Mr. Bartlett remained with the consolidated property until he removed from the state.

Mr. Bartlett came to Rockford twenty-five years ago. In January, 1891, in company with W. L. Eaton and Eugene McSweeney, all of Kalamazoo, he purchased the two evening papers, the Register and the Gazette, and consolidated them under the name of The Register-Gazette. In 1899 Mr. Bartlett purchased Mr. McSweeney's interest, and in 1901 he bought that of Mr. Eaton's. Two years later the capital stock of the Register-Gazette Company was increased from \$36,000 to \$60,000, and F. E. Sterling, who had been connected with the editorial department for eleven years, became a stockholder and managing editor.

The coming of Mr. Bartlett to Rockford marked a new epoch in its newspaper field. He had faith in the future of Rockford and time has vindicated his judgment. The Register-Gazette Company immediately secured the afternoon service of the Associated Press, linotypes

were installed and other features of a metropolitan daily were introduced. In a quarter of a century the Register-Gazette has gained a prestige second to none in northern Illinois, and its circulation is today more than three times the combined editions of the Register and Gazette at the time of their consolidation. In 1898 Mr. Bartlett purchased, as a side issue, the Kalamazoo Gazette, F. F. Rowe, formerly advertising manager of the Register-Gazette, assuming charge. Two years later the paper was consolidated with the Kalamazoo News and passed into the hands of Messrs. Rowe, McSweeney and Kettle, all formerly of Rockford.

Mr. Bartlett and Miss Hattie Leach, daughter of Shepherd Leach, a pioneer of 1838, were united in marriage, October 12, 1882. They have two children: Elliott S., advertising manager of the Register-Gazette; and Irene, a student at Rockford College.

The elements that have contributed to Mr. Bartlett's success in all his enterprises are easily stated. They are good judgment, integrity, system in everything, and withal, an affability that invites good will.

BATEMAN, James John. The record of an honest man's quiet life is worth reading for it demonstrates that the results of real endeavor are not lost and that fidelity and integrity pay better in the way of happiness than the plaudits of the public. The history of the late James John Bateman of Rockford is an example. He was one of its reliable men and an expert watch repairer and maker. He was born at Coventry, England, January 4, 1842. On January 4, 1860, he left his native land for the United States, and located at Brooklyn, N. Y. He had served a seven years' apprenticeship to the watchmaking trade in England without pay, before he came to America. He spent some years at Brooklyn as a watchmaker and conducted a jewelry store there. Subsequently he came west to Elgin, Ill., where he was a watch finisher and maker, and still later came to Rockford, and for eighteen years worked in the finishing room of the Rockford Watch Factory. He then became a watch repairer at his own home, doing much expert work for jewelers at Rockford and in the vicinity. He was known to be one of the best watchmakers and repairers in the city, and all the jewelers were glad to secure his skilled service, and he was kept busy. When he decided to found his home here he was particular and in order to have a residence to suit him, he bought a large frame house which was situated at No. 1126 Jackson street. This he remodeled and modernized, later enjoyed it as a home, and there he died October 13, 1904.

While still living at Brooklyn Mr. Bateman was married to Isabel Vallerelee and she died here without issue. On December 18, 1880, Mr. Bateman was married at Geneva, Ill., to Annie Metcalf, born at Elgin, Ill., where she was educated. She is a daughter of Charles C. and Sarah (Craig) Metcalf of Kendalwood, England. Mr. and Mrs. Bateman became the parents of two children: Marion R., who is at home; and James



John Schmaus

M., who is a graduate of the Rockford High school in class 1901, and for four years he was at the University of Illinois, resides at Cleveland, Ohio, and is manager of the Western Electric Company. He married Victoria Broughm, and they have one son, James Burrel.

BAWDEN, Albert R., now one of the prosperous young business men of Davenport, Iowa, is connected with Rockford by ties of friendship and the closer ones of marriage, and is well known to people of Winnebago County, and a frequent visitor to Rockford. He was born at Muscatine, Iowa, August 6, 1886, a son of the late George W. Bawden who, for years, was a leading member of the legal fraternity of Davenport, Iowa. Mr. Bawden was educated at Davenport where he early developed into a business man of ability. He is proprietor of the Davenport Postcard and Novelty Company, a wholesale house, of the I. & I. News Stand, and of the Commercial Photographic Company, and also of two similar establishments at Clinton, Iowa.

On October 15, 1913, Mr. Bawden was married to Miss Mabel Buford, a daughter of John and Matilda (Okerberg) Buford, the ceremony taking place at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. George Schwenker, at No. 211 Tenth street, Rock Island. The same clergyman, Rev. J. W. Johnson, performed the ceremony for Mrs. Schwenker and her husband, he being the beloved pastor of the sisters, and in charge of their old church at Rockford, the Emmannel Lutheran. Mr. and Mrs. Bawden now reside at 2724 Harrison street, Davenport, Iowa. Mrs. Bawden was born at Moline, April 14, 1884. She is a graduate of the city schools of Moline and Rock Island. For six years prior to her marriage she resided at Rock Island with her mother and sister, and was a favorite in social circles. Some years after the death of John Buford, Mrs. Buford was married to Augustus Nelson, one of the retired capitalists of Rockford.

BEALE, Harold W. The spread of the use of concrete has afforded employment for the means and energies of some of the most active men of Winnebago County, who at Rockford and elsewhere, are engaged in supplying the ever increasing demand for products in this line. Among those thus engaged is Harold W. Beale, whose plant is conveniently located at No. 1100 Kiskwaukee street. He was born in New Milford Township, October 16, 1883, a son of John and Hattie (Maxwell) Beale, natives of Twickenham, England, and New Milford, Ill. Frederick Maxwell, the maternal grandfather was born in Massachusetts, but came to New Milford with his father about 1836, and entered 640 acres from the government. John Beale came to New Milford and after marrying, settled on a farm where he died many years ago. His widow resides at No. 1522 First Avenue, Rockford. Their two children are: Minnie, who

is Mrs. Arthur Brown of New Milford; and Harold W.

Harold W. Beale attended the common and high schools of Rockford. When he was only nineteen years old he began working as a clerk and as dispatcher for the Rockford and Interurban Railroad Company, and later was motor-man for a street railroad company for two years. In 1911, in association with Frank Burrett, he started his present concrete business, the firm specializing in all kinds of concrete blocks and in burial vaults. They keep four men busy during the season. Mr. Beale is not married.

BEAN, Reynolds W., whose confectionery store at No. 503 W. State street is one of the most complete establishments of its kind in Rockford, the quality of the goods and excellence of the service attracting a large patronage, may safely be numbered among the leading young business men of his locality. He was born at Rockford, July 4, 1888, a son of Frank and Nettie (Worsley) Bean. Both parents were born at Rockford, where they were educated, and where the mother yet lives. The father was a machinist with W. F. & John Barnes, and later was a foreman for this concern, having held that position for twenty-nine years when he left to go into a milk business. After a short experience in this line, he embarked in a bakery business with his brother, Charles J. Bean, and they continued together for six years, the partnership terminating with his death, in 1911, which was the result of blood poisoning, when he was fifty-two years old. He was a Mason and a member of the Royal Arcanum. Politically he was a Republican.

Reynolds W. Bean spent his boyhood at Rockford, where he attended the grade and high schools and Brown's Business College. Following his graduation from the latter institution he took a position with the Kurtz Action Company, with which he remained for six years, leaving to go to Janesville, Wis., where he was employed by the Wisconsin Carriage Company as book-keeper for six months. For the next two years Mr. Bean was with the Emerson-Brantingham Company, Rockford, when, on account of failing health from close confinement, he took charge of one of the wagons of the Grand Union Tea Company so as to be in the open air as much as possible, and so continued for a year. Much improved, he went back to the Kurtz Action Company and remained with this concern until 1912, when he established his present business at No. 503 W. State street. Here he conducts one of the most modern ice cream and confectionery stores in the city, and his prosperity is fully merited.

On June 19, 1912, Mr. Bean was married to Miss Agnes Sears, who was born April 6, 1890, a daughter of Hiram and Mary Sears of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Bean have a son, Robert Frank, who was born May 16, 1913. They belong to the Court Street Methodist Church. In politics Mr. Bean is a Republican.

BEATTIE, John, page 649.

BECKER, William E., assistant superintendent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & Gary Railway Company, with headquarters at Rockford, and residence at No. 615 Market street, is one of the alert, sound young business men of the city, whose rise to his present responsible position is the direct result of his own capability. He was born at Seymour, Ind., May 14, 1878, and there educated. His first work in the business field was done as a messenger boy for the Western Union Telegraph Company, whose employ he entered August 7, 1893, and as he was ambitious, he learned telegraphy, and on July 1, 1895, was given a position as operator with the E. & R. Railroad, now a part of the Chicago, Terre Haute & Southeastern Railroad. Advanced rapidly, he became manager of the office of the Western Union Telegraph Company at Seymour, Ind., and held that position until September 20, 1901, when he became operator at Linton, Ind., for the present Chicago, Terre Haute & Southeastern Railroad, and on December 10, 1902, was made dispatcher at that point, and on November 1, 1906, was made chief dispatcher at that point. Further advancement was given him, for on March 1, 1909, he was made superintendent of the Southern Indiana Railroad and held that position until December 31, 1910. On March 1, 1911, he came to Rockford to become assistant superintendent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & Gary Railroad.

On November 27, 1907, Mr. Becker was married at Terre Haute, Ind., to Mayme Brown, born October 31, 1884, at Evansville, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Becker have one daughter, Mildred R., who was born December 4, 1908. Mr. Becker belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Encampment of that order. Since casting his first vote, Mr. Becker has been an enthusiastic Democrat. An experienced railroad man, he is able to handle sagaciously and expeditiously the many problems brought before him, and his road is fortunate in having the services of a man of his calibre.

BECKINGTON & BECKINGTON. One of the leading legal firms of Rockford is that of Beckington & Beckington, composed of two brothers, Boyd and R. E., whose association with the jurisprudence of Winnebago County places them among the prominent attorneys of this section. Their offices are conveniently located at Nos. 308 and 309 Brown Building, and here they carry on a general legal practice. They were born in Boone County near Garden Prairie, Ill. R. E., June 2, 1880, and Boyd, November 24, 1884, and both are young men of decided ability in the very prime of life. They are the sons of Mark and Anna (Randolph) Beckington, natives of England and Pennsylvania, respectively, who are both now deceased.

The Beckington brothers both were graduated from the Belvidere High school, and the elder entered upon his legal studies at the University of Wisconsin, while the younger took a similar

course at the University of Michigan, from which institution he was graduated in 1906. In 1908 Boyd Beckington went to Aberdeen, S. D., and entered upon an active practice. In 1912 he was a candidate for county judge and failed of election by only a few votes. In 1914 he came to Rockford, where he joined his brother, R. E., in forming the partnership of Beckington & Beckington, which association still continues.

On December 9, 1912, Boyd Beckington was married to Nellie E. Brown of Dolgeville, N. Y., born July 19, 1889. R. E. Beckington is unmarried. Highly educated, proficient in their profession, these brothers control a large practice and are recognized as men who not only have advanced rapidly, but whose future holds great promise.

BELL, Ira L., president and manager of the Rockford Overland Co., at No. 426-428 Elm street, Rockford, Ill., has risen by successive steps to his present position, through his own ability and foresight. He was born at Leesburg, Loudoun County, Va., November 5, 1880, a son of Norman N. and Sarah A. Bell.

Norman N. Bell was also born at Leesburg, Va., and was there educated. During the Civil war he was employed at Harper's Ferry, Va., and later went by boat down the Ohio River to Cairo, Ill., then up the Mississippi to Gray's Point, Mo., where the family lauded. They finally located at Appleton City, Mo., and later moved to Cape Girardeau, Mo., where he operated a blacksmith and wagon shop. For some time he was engaged in the same business in Morrisonville, Christian County, Ill., and then moved to Delavan, Kan., still working along the same lines. He died at St. Louis, Mo., in 1892. His widow survives and lives in St. Louis, Mo.

He was a Democrat politically, a Methodist in religious matters, and belonged to the Masons and Odd Fellows. The paternal grandfather of Ira L. Bell was the founder of Harper's Ferry, Ill., and died at Morrisonville, Ill. His remains were laid to rest in Virginia.

Ira L. Bell was reared and educated at St. Louis, Mo. His first employment, at the age of twelve, was with the Western Union Telegraph Company, as a messenger boy. He was then successively with the St. Louis Box Factory and the Majestic Mfg. Co., as elevator boy. After six months' time the Majestic Mfg. Co., promoted him to the position of time keeper, and three years later he was made assistant foreman. He then went with the Hydraulic Pressed Brick Co., of St. Louis, as traveling salesman, where he remained seven years. At the expiration of this time he engaged with the Willys-Overland Co., of Toledo, Ohio, being appointed district manager over eight states. After five years, on September 3, 1914, he came to Rockford and opened up the agency for the Overland cars in this vicinity. He is distributor for eight counties and has forty sub-dealers. Since coming here he has sold two thousand cars.

In 1903 Mr. Bell was married to Miss P. M. Pentony, of St. Louis, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Bell



Anna Schmauss.

had one daughter, Elise M. Mrs. Bell died at St. Louis in 1906. In 1910 Mr. Bell was married to Miss B. C. Whittaker, of St. Louis, whose father was a manufacturer. Mr. and Mrs. Bell have two sons: Ira W. and Bruce W.

Mr. Bell is a thirty-second degree Mason, and is enthusiastic in his support of that order. He is also an Elk and a member of several other clubs. He is a man of uncommon ability, he stands in the highest ranks, and is admitted one of Rockford's leading men.

BENJAMIN, John, page 661.

BENNETT, George M., whose activities in the realty market place him among the men who have been largely instrumental in extending the area of Rockford and enhancing its importance in many directions, was born at Oregon, Ogle County, Ill., May 13, 1871, a son of William W. and Katherine (Snyder) Bennett, natives of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, respectively. They came to Rockford in 1878, although Mr. Bennett retained his banking connections in Ogle County until 1879, when he retired.

George M. Bennett was the second of the four children born to his parents, and he attended the grade and high schools of Rockford, and for one winter was a student in the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill. He then spent one year in Europe as a representative of the Rockford Air Brush Manufacturing Company. In 1895 Mr. Bennett embarked in a real estate and insurance business at Rockford for himself, continuing alone until 1901, when he took Frank S. Horner into partnership, under the firm name of Bennett & Horner. In 1905 Mr. Horner withdrew and Mr. Bennett was again alone until March 20, 1915, when he became associated with Sherman B. Letts, under the firm name of Letts & Bennett, and the business is so continued at No. 125 W. State street. In March, 1915, Letts & Bennett opened a subdivision of 175 lots and twenty acres of high class open land in East Rockford. Mr. Letts and Mr. Bennett are members of the Rockford Real Estate Board and of the Cook County Real Estate Board. Mr. Bennett is a member of Masonic fraternity, Eastern Star of Rockford, Elks Lodge No. 64, the Rockford Chamber of Commerce, and the Motor Club. He belongs to the Second Congregational Church. Politically he is a Republican. He has not accepted any public office, but his elder brother, Hon. W. W. Bennett, is the present chief executive of Rockford, and a candidate for governor of Illinois.

In October, 1896, Mr. Bennett was married to Katherine Pepper, a daughter of DeWitt C. and Delia (Kimball) Pepper, of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have one child, De Witt W. Bennett, who was born in October, 1900. The Bennetts are justly numbered among the leading people of Rockford, and Mr. Bennett stands very high commercially and socially.

BENNETT, William W., attorney, of Winnebago County, and a highly esteemed resident of

Rockford, was born at Oregon, Ill., October 10, 1869, a son of William W. and Catharine (Snyder) Bennett. William W. Bennett brought his family to Rockford in 1879, and until the time of his death, November 20, 1896, he was actively engaged in the management of his business interests. His remains were interred at Rockford, where his widow still resides.

William W. Bennett, the younger, attended the public schools of Oregon, Rockford, and the University of Illinois, and studied law with Works & Hyer, being admitted to the bar May 20, 1896, beginning the practice of his profession immediately thereafter. Mr. Bennett has taken an active part in political affairs, having served as alderman for two years, as a member of the school board for the same length of time, and on April 2, 1911, was elected mayor of Rockford, which office he is still holding, being one of the best executives the city has ever had. Mr. Bennett is a director in the Rockford National Bank.

On October 6, 1898, Mr. Bennett was married to Gertrude Scovill, a daughter of Hon. Horace C. and Rosa (Zoller) Scovill. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have four children: William W., Eleanor, Catharine and Barbara. Mr. Scovill was at one time mayor of Rockford. His death occurred in the fall of 1912 at the age of seventy-seven years. Mr. Bennett belongs to the B. P. O. E., No. 64; to Rockford Lodge No. 166, A. F. & A. M.; and to the Hamilton Club of Chicago. He is a member of the Second Congregational Church of Rockford. A fine type of American manhood, Mr. Bennett has worked hard to bring about the passage of legislation he believes to be best for his city, and has oftentimes sacrificed his own interests in order to conserve the public welfare.

BERGSTEN, Oscar, superintendent of the Rockford Cedar Furniture Company, and a member of its board of directors, is an expert in the making of cedar chests and wardrobes, and is probably one of the most skillful men in his line in the city. He was born in Sweden, April 20, 1876, and was there educated. After completing his school days, he assisted his father in a woodworking shop where he learned his trade, and there remained until 1901, when he left Sweden for the United States, coming straight to Rockford after landing.

After his arrival Mr. Bergsten was employed with the Mechanic Furniture Company, later going to the Haddorff Piano Company, there continuing until he went to the St. Charles Piano Factory, where he remained for a year. On returning to Rockford, he resumed his work with the Haddorff Piano Company and was there employed until the organization of the Rockford Cedar Furniture Company, of which he was one of the organizers, when he became its superintendent. The output of this company is superior in quality and workmanship and finds a ready market. Mr. Bergsten is unmarried and lives with his sister, Miss Elizabeth at No. 1126 Four-

teenth avenue. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

BERTRAND, Frank Monroe, was born at Rockford, Ill., September 8, 1873, the only son of Frank T. and Mary (Crandall) Bertrand. He received his early education in the Rockford public schools, later spending a year in Cornell University. In 1893 he moved to Chicago, where he became a member of the Chicago Board of Trade, and conducted a floor brokerage business until 1907. In 1908 Mr. Bertrand was married to Miss Anna Bntler Snyder, of Williamsport, Pa., and shortly afterward they returned to Rockford, where they are now residing. He has been active in different Masonic bodies and in politics, and in 1912 accepted the presidency of the Wilson-Dunne Club of Winnebago County. Mr. Bertrand is now deputy collector of Internal Revenue. He is sincere in his belief that everyone should realize the responsibility that rests upon the shoulders of the citizen and has given much time to promoting that idea.

BERTRAND, Frank T., a resident of Rockford, Ill., since 1853, was born at Oxbury, Province of Ontario, Canada, January 29, 1833, a son of Louis Michelle and Marie Clotilde (DeFourt) Bertrand, natives of Canada. When a boy he learned the blacksmith's trade and followed it in his native place until the fall of 1853 when he moved to Rockford. Continuing at his trade until the fall of 1859, he then formed a partnership with Peter Sames, for the purpose of conducting a general repair, wagon and plow factory. During the early days of the partnership Mr. Bertrand invented a riding corn cultivator, known as the Bertrand and Sames cultivator, and which found a ready market. In 1880 Mr. Bertrand sold his interest in the partnership to his partner, and retired from active business. He early saw the future for Rockford, and identified himself with other pioneers in putting the name of Rockford on the map.

In 1871 Mr. Bertrand was married to Mary M. Crandall of Rockford. One son, Frank Monroe, who is still living, was born to the union. Fraternally Mr. Bertrand has been identified with Free Masonry since 1859, and has passed through all of the different degrees of the order.

Years have passed since the pioneers of Rockford's industrial life blazed the way forward, but the names of those who achieved success and their influence will not be forgotten. To Frank T. Bertrand, and other pioneers, must be credited the fact that, today, Rockford possesses a reputation as a city of sound and conservative business enterprise.

BEST, Arthur Jonathan. The Best family is one of the old established and honorable ones in Winnebago County and its representatives are fully living up to the highest standards raised by righteous-living ancestors. One of these representatives is Arthur Jonathan Best, supervisor of Durand Township and one of the sterling men of Winnebago County. He was born in

Durand Township, December 7, 1870, a son of Simon Peter and Elizabeth Hannah (Matter) Best, of the village of Durand.

Arthur Jonathan Best was reared in his native township and taught habits of usefulness while he was sent to the local schools. He remained at home until 1894, when he went to Emmet County, Iowa, and there engaged in farming until 1901. In that year he went to Palo Alto County, Iowa, and in 1904 he located in Dickinson County, the same state. A year later he went to Kingsbury County, S. Dak., and farmed and dealt in land, moving to Edmunds County, that state, in 1909. After a year, or in 1910, he returned home and engaged in farming in Durand Township, but recently rented his farm of 199 acres and came to live with his parents in Durand village. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity. In 1913 he was elected on the Republican ticket, supervisor of Durand Township without opposition, and was re-elected in 1915. He is a stockholder in the Citizens State Bank of Durand. He is a man of both means and public spirit and one who stands deservedly high in his community.

BEST, Jacob Manuel, now living on the same farm where he was born and which has always been his home, is one of the leading agriculturists of Durand Township. He was born January 25, 1860, a son of Reuben and Catherine (Long) Best, who are mentioned elsewhere in this work. With the exception of seven weeks spent in the West, Mr. Best has never been away from the farm for any appreciable length of time. He received his education in the district schools, attending the one across the road from his home.

On March 30, 1882, Mr. Best was married to Miss Elizabeth E. Orth, of Durand Township, born in Rock Grove Township, Stephenson County, Ill., but at the time of her marriage was living on the same section of land as Mr. Best. She is a daughter of Philip and Anna (Jennewein) Orth, both natives of Germany and pioneers of Winnebago County. Mr. and Mrs. Best commenced housekeeping in the old home where they have since continued to live. In 1892 Mr. Best made his first purchase of land, securing forty acres on section 20, which was a part of his grandfather Best's homestead. Following this in 1896 he purchased forty acres in section 29, and in 1903 bought 160 acres in section 19. In 1909 he bought 120 acres in section 29, and in 1912 bought fifteen acres of timber land in Rock Run Township, Stephenson County, and in 1915 bought a business property at Davis, Stephenson County, Ill., and is now erecting a light plant and garage on this property on Main street. In all he owns 375 acres of land, and in addition to operating this with the assistance of his sons, he conducts his father's place, in all farming 600 acres of land at the present time, doing general farming and stockraising, handling a high grade of Polled Angus cattle, but not registered stock.

Mr. and Mrs. Best have had the following children: Manuel Alfred, who was born March

28, 1883, married Lillie Morris and lives on his maternal grandfather's old homestead, which his father now owns; Walter R. P., who was born December 21, 1884, married Elfida Tilkemeier, lives at home; Cora Emma, who was born June 21, 1886, married William Runte and lives in Durand Township; Orris Jacob, who was born February 2, 1888, married Clara (Heitkorn) and lives in Durand Township; Babe, born in 1890, died in infancy; Clarence Milford, who was born December 23, 1895, is at home and is going to conduct the garage and light plant; Floyd Willard, who was born August 1, 1898, is at home. With the exception of Clarence, who is running a garage and light plant at Davis, Ill., all the sons are assisting their father in operating the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Best are members of the United Evangelical Church. Politically he is a Republican, and has been a member of the school board for a number of years, and is now a school trustee of Durand Township. His postoffice address is Davis, Stephenson County, Ill.

BEST, Reuben, a prosperous and honored retired farmer of Durand Township, was born in Northampton County, Pa., February 16, 1828, a son of Jacob N. and Susannah (Unangst) Best, both natives of Pennsylvania, where all their children were born. In 1855 these parents, with their ten children, the eleventh, a daughter, being left to follow later, migrated to Illinois by steamboat and railroad to Pecatonica. They had been attracted to this region because of the favorable reports made by Reuben Best, who, in 1850, had come to Winnebago County to look over the region and visit some former Pennsylvanians whom he had known. At that time there were no settlements on the east of Freeport, and only one brick building in the place. The prairie was all open and settlers were few. Jacob N. Best bought 120 acres of prairie and forty acres of timber land, the former on section 20, and there was, for that time, a fairly good frame house on the property. Jacob N. Best continued to live on this farm during the balance of his life, dying February 20, 1885, when over eighty-six years old. His wife, born November 4, 1799, died August 9, 1891.

For two years after settling in Durand Township, Reuben Best worked as a carpenter and then bought thirty-six acres of the farm where he now resides. This land had been broken and had a small frame house upon it. From time to time he added to his first purchase until he owned 160 acres, forty acres of which was a portion of his father's homestead, and here he lived continuously for sixty years, with the exception of four years when he was on an adjacent place.

Reuben Best was married in Pennsylvania to Miss Catherine Long, on April 24, 1852, and they became the parents of six children, the first of whom was born in Pennsylvania, and the others in Winnebago County. They were as follows: Albert, who was born January 30, 1853, is now

living at Rockford; William Ervin, who was born October 25, 1857, is living in Stephenson County, Ill.; Jacob Manuel, who was born January 25, 1860, lives in Durand Township; Mary Ann, who was born June 15, 1862, died in August, 1915, and lived at Rockford; Ida Alice, who was born November 20, 1864, died when eleven months old; and Emma L., who was born September 11, 1869, is living in Kansas. Mrs. Best died November 2, 1891, aged sixty-one years, two months and twenty-one days. She was a consistent member of the Evangelical Church, as is Mr. Best.

Politically Mr. Best is a Republican, and he served as a school director for many years. He has seen many changes in the county. He built the first frame house in Davis, and a number of houses in Durand Township, including the one in which he lived for so many years, and did a great deal of building during his first few years of residence in the county. Durand Township was fast settling up when the Best family arrived, and soon thereafter land began to advance in value. The year 1915, April 13, marked the sixtieth anniversary of the arrival of the Best family in Durand Township, and members of it have lived here continuously ever since.

BEST, Simon Peter, a capable, energetic, intelligent man and good citizen, is a retired farmer living at Durand, Ill. He was born in Easton, Northampton County, Pa., April 13, 1844, a son of Jacob N. and Susanna (Unangst) Best, both natives of Easton, Northampton County, Pa., where he was born December 1, 1798, and she November 4, 1799.

The Best family originated in Germany, two brothers founding the family in America in 1727 by locating in Pennsylvania and it is a fact worthy of note that its members have always been self-respecting and hard working ever since. The maternal ancestors located in the colonies at about the same time as did the paternal ones. The parents married in Pennsylvania and their eleven children were born in that state, of whom Simon Peter was the youngest, the others being as follows: William, who was born November 26, 1821, died in Illinois, March 25, 1903; Mrs. Sarah Unangst, who was born August 22, 1823, died August 12, 1896, at Davis, Ill.; Mrs. Rosana Glasser, who was born July 21, 1825, died July 8, 1912, at Davis, Ill.; Reuben, who was born February 16, 1828, is living in Durand Township; Mrs. Anna Maria Gold, who was born November 27, 1830, died at Davis, Ill., November 8, 1895; Susanna, who was born January 3, 1832, died at Easton, Pa., October 25, 1833; Sophia Weaver, who was born February 28, 1834, is living at Davis, Ill.; Mrs. Rebecca Richard, who was born February 12, 1836, is living at Lena, Ill.; Elizabeth, who married Thomas Jenne-weine, who was wounded at the battle of Stone River, during the Civil war, and died a prisoner, January 1, 1863, leaving two sons, and later Elizabeth married (second) Adam Rheinegans; Lavina Baker, who was born September 8, 1841,

died June 19, 1913, at Davis, Ill.; and Simon Peter.

Jacob N. Best, the father of the above children, was a farmer. In 1855 he sold his property in Pennsylvania and came with his family to Winnebago County, Ill., arriving here April 13, settling on a farm in Durand Township, comprising 160 acres, partly improved. On this he made additional improvements and developed it into one of the best farms in the county. On it he passed the balance of his life, dying February 20, 1885, the mother also passing away upon this farm August 9, 1891, that is still in possession of the family. These parents were members of the Evangelical association. In politics the father was a Republican and a strong anti-slavery man. He served for seven years in the Pennsylvania state militia, belonging to the Twenty-sixth regiment. A public spirited man he helped to build the first schoolhouse in his district in Durand Township after coming to the county. At that time Pecatonica was the nearest market, it being seven miles from the Best farm, and Durand village was not even thought of, let alone being in existence, it not being laid out until 1856, following the construction of the railroad through Durand Township.

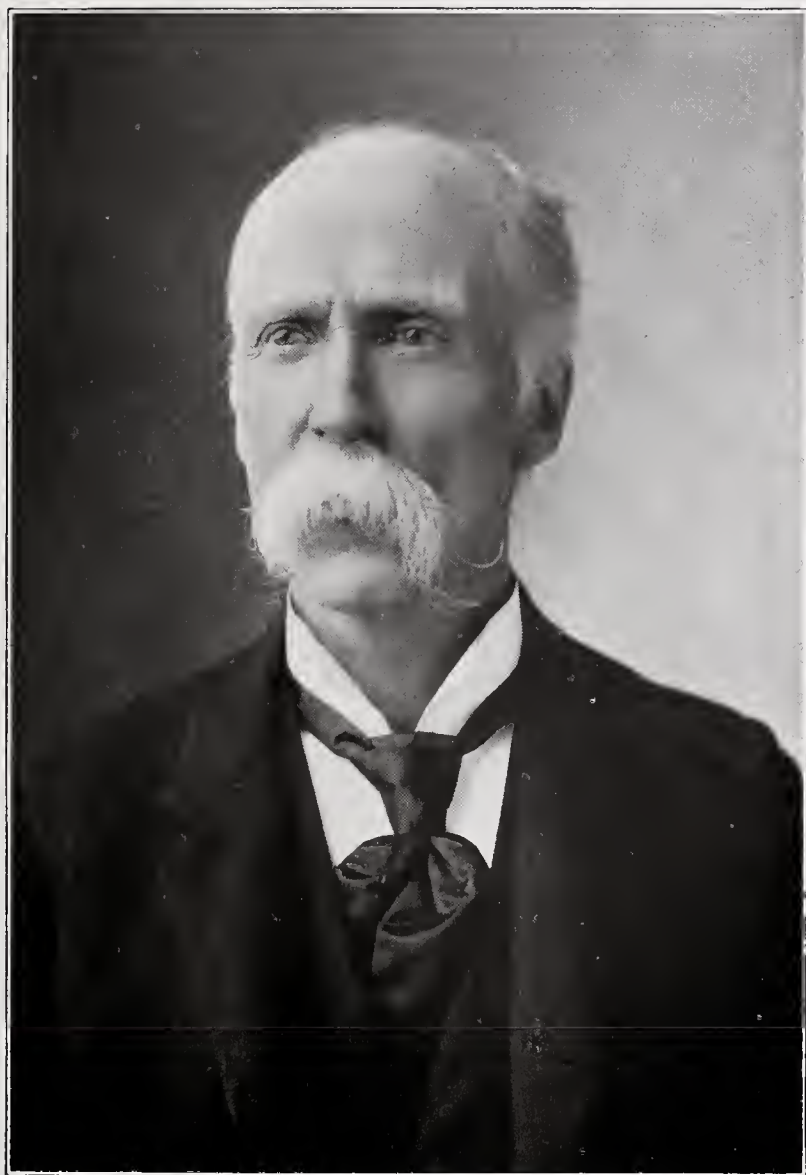
Simon Peter Best was eleven years old when he was brought to Durand Township and he was reared on the homestead, and sent to the district schools. On February 13, 1868, he was married to Elizabeth Hannah Matter, of Davis, Stephenson County, Ill., born at Freeport, Ill., March 21, 1847, a daughter of Jonathan Matter who settled in Stephenson County in 1845, coming there from Pennsylvania by boat and team. Although ninety-three years old, he survives and makes his home at Freeport. The paternal great-great-grandfather of Mrs. Best was captain of a company in the Revolutionary war and one of his sons served also as a soldier. Following his marriage, Simon Peter Best carried on the homestead farm for eleven years and during this time he purchased land to which he moved in the spring of 1880 to which he has since added until he now owns 320 acres of land, all improved. On it he has built a large barn and made other improvements and lived upon this property until 1896 when he retired and moved to his present residence at Durand, renting his farm to a son. He and his wife became the parents of nine children, as follows: Fernando, who was born October 10, 1869, is living at Redfield, S. Dak., and has three children; Arthur Jonathan who was born December 7, 1870, is mentioned elsewhere in this work; Jacob Edgar, who was born October 14, 1872, is living on a farm in Durand Township; Wallace V., who was born August 22, 1874, is living in Texas; Signora, who was born September 9, 1877, married E. D. Shakey of Durand; Sylvia D., who was born October 23, 1882, married Frank Sodaman of Durand Township; Oscar L., who was born September 11, 1884, married Esther Brinker, September 16, 1915, is living on his father's farm; Arvilla M., who was born November 26, 1886, married Roy Randell of Durand; and Susanna Pearl, who was

born October 2, 1888, married Walter Bliss of Durand, and has a son, Raymond W. Mr. Best is a Methodist, and in politics is independent. He served as assessor of Durand Township and was also highway commissioner, discharging the duties of these offices with the same faithful adherence to high ideals which has characterized him along other lines.

BILLICK, Edward, now living in honorable retirement at his residence, No. 429 S. Court street, was at one time very prominent in business circles of Rockford, as a meat merchant and hotel man. He was born at Pecatonica, this county, May 10, 1855, a son of William and Laura (Swift) Billick. The Billick family is one of the oldest in the United States, a member of it having been a passenger on the Mayflower. This family was early established in New York state, and it was in Allegany County, that state, that William Billick was born, April 10, 1827. When still a lad his parents became pioneers of Winnebago County, Ill., buying land from the government in Pecatonica Township, and there the grandfather died in 1864. The father remained on the homestead until 1873, when he went to Tama County, Iowa, there buying land, but sold it and moved to Caro County, Iowa, where he died at the age of seventy-nine years and eleven months. The mother survives, and makes her home at Manning, Iowa. The father was a Republican in politics.

Reared and educated at Pecatonica, Ill., Edward Billick came to Rockford and did teaming from 1872 to 1873, and then established himself in a meat business, and also dealt in cattle for a number of years. He then went to Iowa, and was associated with his father in farming operations for two years, but returned to Rockford and went into the hotel business, first conducting the Forest City House for a number of years, after which he assumed charge of the Rexton Hotel. This is a well known hostelry, very popular with commercial travelers. Mr. Billick has been managing this hotel for seventeen years. He owns thirty-seven acres of land on Kilbourne avenue, where a dairy is operated and farm products are furnished for the hotel, and has a ranch in Texas.

In 1871 Mr. Billick was married to Miss Augusta Kling, a daughter of August and Anna (Free) Kling. Mr. and Mrs. Kling were natives of Sweden, and Mr. Kling was an officer in the Swedish army. They came to the United States in 1864, first stopping at Rockford, but later going to Pecatonica Township, where they farmed until the death of Mr. Kling at the age of fifty-two years. Mrs. Kling died in 1910, at Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Billick became the parents of two children, namely: Harry E. and Ethel V., the latter of whom married James Enright and they have one child, Reginald E. Enright. Mr. Kling was a well known man in his day. Genial, entertaining and reliable, Mr. Billick stands well in popular esteem and has the reputation of always being an ideal host.



C. M. Sherwood

BILLSTROM, John E., superintendent and general manager of the Nels J. Billstrom Machine Company, with residence at No. 1315 Tenth street, Rockford, is proving in the success that attends his every day work, the value of expert knowledge coupled with natural aptitude for a certain line of endeavor. He is a son of Nels J. and Anna (Hanson) Billstrom, and was born at Rockford, Ill., September 25, 1896.

Mr. Billstrom grew up in this city and attended the public schools. He then took a course in engineering and also was a student in the Draughors-Porter Business College, Rockford. Immediately following the completion of his studies, he took a position in his father's manufacturing plant. This business had been established in 1903, upon a small scale, but has been developed until now two buildings are utilized, one 75x100 feet in dimensions and one 50x100 feet. The shops are among the best equipped in their line in the state. The company manufactures wood working machinery and the product is shipped all over the world, the company having customers in Canada and in all foreign countries. In 1915 four car loads of machinery were shipped to Russia. The business has shown a healthy and genuine increase annually.

Mr. Billstrom is recognized as one of the live, enterprising young business men of Rockford, and under his active supervision further development may be anticipated.

BILLSTROM, Nels J., president and treasurer of the Nels J. Billstrom Machine Works, with residence at No. 1315 Tenth street, Rockford, was born in Malmo, Sweden, December 15, 1856, and in 1880 emigrated to America. Mr. Billstrom became foreman of the East Rockford Machine Tool Company. In 1903 he invented the Gluing Clamp Carrier, and in 1909 the Continuous Feed Attachment for Buzz Planers. He started in on a small scale and has succeeded. The plant now comprises one building 75x100 feet and one 50x100 feet. The company manufactures wood working machinery and the product is shipped to all parts of the civilized globe.

BIXBY, James Milton. Another of the old veterans of Winnebago County passed away with the death of James Milton Bixby, but this locality lost more than a survivor of the Civil war, for he was one of the substantial men of Rockford. During earlier years he had made his mark as a farmer and carpenter. He was born at Royalton, Niagara County, N. Y., October 24, 1839, a son of Caius and Louisa (Compton) Bixby, natives of Canada and New Jersey. In 1844 these parents came to Winnebago County with his parents, Levi and Lucinda (Burch) Bixby, natives of New York, and they all settled at Elida. Levi Bixby was one of the early physicians of Winnebago County, and it was with him that James Milton Bixby resided until his enlistment, in August, 1862, for service during the Civil war, in Company F, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, being as-

signed to the Army of the Cumberland. He took part in all the engagements of his regiment, having the good fortune never to be wounded nor taken prisoner. After his period of faithful service expired, he was honorably discharged in June, 1865. He was justly proud of the document, a part of which is given:

Know Ye, That J. Milton Bixby a Corporal of Captain George R. Bradshaw's Company, (F) 74th Regiment of Illinois Infantry Volunteers who was enrolled on the Fifth day of August one thousand eight hundred and sixty two to serve Three years or during the war, is hereby DISCHARGED from the service of the United States, this Tenth day of June, 1865, at Nashville, Tenn. by reason of being mustered out in accordance with instructions from War Department dated May 29th, 1865.

(No objection to his being re-enlisted is known to exist.)

After Mr. Bixby returned to Winnebago County he resumed farming. Later he went to Michigan, but not liking that state, came back once more to Winnebago County, and in 1870 moved to Plymouth County, Iowa, and bought a farm. This he operated until 1882, when he sold it, and going further west bought land in Lancaster County, Neb., and operated it until 1893, when he sold, and locating then at Rockford, was for a time engaged in carpenter work. On September 3, 1913, he died, and is buried in Cedar Bluff Cemetery.

While residing in Plymouth County, Iowa, Mr. Bixby was married to Sarah E. Seal, born in Guilford Township, this county, a daughter of Christopher and Sarah (Finch) Seal, natives of England. Mr. and Mrs. Bixby became the parents of two children: Achsah Marie, who died at the age of two years; and Ellis Milton, who resides with his mother, and works for the Security Insurance Company. Mr. Bixby belonged to the Centennial Methodist Church. In politics he was a Republican. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., held his membership and he was highly regarded by all his comrades. A man of high character, he did his duty as he saw it, and had the satisfaction of amassing a desirable competency during the years he was actively engaged.

BJORKLUND, Jesse Nathan, a dry goods merchant who is correctly numbered among the leading business men of Rockford, is very conveniently located at No. 1113 Fourteenth avenue, where he enjoys a fine trade. He was born at Rockford, Ill., September 28, 1881, a son of Charles and Clara (Bredberg) Bjorklund. Charles Bjorklund was born in Smolan, Sweden, and came to this country about 1871. Clara Bredberg was born in Westergotland, Sweden, came to this country about 1865, and they were married at the home of the mother's parents at Rockford, Ill., in 1880, and located at Rockford. Here Charles Bjorklund, in association with others, embarked in the manufacture of bricks, so continuing until 1910, when he was placed

on the staff of Green & Coleman, manufacturers of lumber and boxes, and is still with this concern. In politics he is a Republican. He is a member of the Zion Lutheran Church, having been instrumental in securing the erection of a place of worship for this denomination at Rockford, so that he could worship according to the faith he had espoused in his native land. His wife died at Rockford, in 1900, at the age of forty-three years.

Jesse Nathan Bjorklund grew up at Rockford, where he was educated in the public schools. Upon completing his school training he was engaged by the Skandia Brick Company, and continued with this company for three years, when he became a clerk for Mr. Nelin, dealer in soft drinks and cigars, on E. State street. After leaving Mr. Nelin he was employed by Cutting and Co., dry goods merchants, being promoted to be assistant manager. Then Mr. Bjorklund and Mr. Cutting established themselves in a dry goods business at No. 1113 Fourteenth avenue, and after a month of prosperous operation, Mr. Bjorklund bought out his partner, and now conducts it alone.

On June 5, 1912, Mr. Bjorklund was married to Miss Laura Valentine, a daughter of Charles and Anna (Wallin) Valentine of Rockford. Her parents were of Swedish descent and birth, and she was born in Sweden, and was brought here by her parents when five years old. Upon arriving at Rockford, her father became an employe of the old Emerson Reaper Company, later going with the Skandia Plow Company. After a number of years spent with the latter company, he went to Iowa and for a year was engaged in an implement business, and then returned to Rockford, and going in with the Rockford Manufacturing Company, continued with that concern until his death, in 1910. The mother of Mrs. Bjorklund survives and lives with Mr. and Mrs. Bjorklund at No. 1316 Ninth street, where he owns the four flat building. Mr. Bjorklund is a member of the Royal Arcanum, of the Sveasoner lodge, and is treasurer of the Fourteenth Avenue Business Men's Association. A man of independent spirit and excellent business judgment, he has made his own way in the world, and is now looking for a larger building for his dry goods business.

BLACK, Samuel McLain, the leading paper hanger and decorator of Rockford, is an artist in his line and his services are in great demand in this city and vicinity by those who appreciate good work. He was born in Louisiana, May 13, 1844, a son of John Henry and Anna (Oakley) Black, natives of Newark, N. J., and Brooklyn, N. Y. The father was a school teacher and taught in a college at Oakland, Miss., removing in 1849 to Bloomfield, N. J.

Samuel McLain Black had a governess in childhood and later attended the public schools of Bloomfield, N. J. He learned the painting and paper-hanging trade, for which he took contracts, and remained at Bloomfield until 1888, when he came to Rockford and embarked here in the same line. He does all the most particu-

lar work in this locality, faithfully completing all contracts, and his skill is very generally recognized.

On March 4, 1869, Mr. Black was married to Ann Elizabeth Smith, born in Winoekey, New Jersey, and they became the parents of the following children: Jenney, who died at the age of four years; Ella Oakley, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Robert, who lives at Meridian, Miss.; and Ralph, who lives at home and is associated in business with his father. Mr. Black belongs to the First Congregational Church of Rockford. In politics he is a Republican. A man of unquestioned skill, his long experience and artistic perceptions make his work exceedingly desirable in quality, and that this is true is proven by the fact that he has more business than he can attend to.

BLACKLAWS, Walter Scott, a prosperous farmer and stockraiser of Rockford Township, has the reputation of being one of the most successful agriculturists of Winnebago County. He resides on the old homestead of his parents, where he was born May 29, 1880, a son of James and Helen (Welch) Blacklaws, natives of Scotland and Rockford, respectively. After marriage they located on the farm in Rockford Township, a portion of which is now owned by Walter Scott Blacklaws. To the original tract the father kept adding until he owned 400 acres. His death occurred August 11, 1901. The mother died in November, 1891. By a prior marriage the father had three sons: Lewis, who is a farmer in Owen Township; and two who are now deceased. By his second marriage he had the following children: Nellie, who is Mrs. Joseph Welsh, of Belvidere, Ill.; Hattie, who is Mrs. William Moore of Rockford; James, who is also of Rockford; and Walter Scott.

Until his marriage, Walter Scott Blacklaws resided with his parents, but then moved to a farm of seventy-three and one-third acres, this being his portion of the homestead. On it he has erected a fine residence and has otherwise improved the property, and here carries on general farming and stockraising with an energy that brings very satisfactory returns.

On November 6, 1901, Mr. Blacklaws was married to Edith Atkinson, born in Burrill Township, a daughter of B. C. and Maryette (Henry) Atkinson, and a granddaughter of Brown Conklin and Maryette (Henry) Atkinson, the former born in Winnebago County, and the latter born in Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Blacklaws have no children. Mr. Blacklaws has spent his life in Rockford Township, even obtaining his educational training in its schools, and is very loyal to his own neighborhood. He is a live, progressive young man who stands very high in public esteem.

BLAISDELL, Elijah W., page 720.

BLAKE, Thatcher, page 639.

BLAKELEY, John E., assistant foreman of the wood department of the Emerson-Brantingham

Company of Rockford, Ill., is one of the substantial native sons of Winnebago County who has risen through his own efforts and is worthy of all consideration. He was born August 10, 1872, a son of George W. and Hannah (Page) Blakeley, natives of Illinois. For some years prior to his demise, the father was a traveling salesman. The mother survives, and makes her home at Rockford.

John E. Blakeley was educated in the public schools of Rockford, and began his business life as an employe of the Palmer Churn factory where he spent six years, and then for four years was city electrician. In 1901 he entered the employ of the Emerson-Brantingham Company as assistant foreman of the wood department, and continues to hold that responsible position.

On October 1, 1885, Mr. Blakeley was married to Gertrude Molson, born at Chicago, Ill., August 30, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Blakeley have the following children: Joseph E., Alma E., John Stanley, Loetta and Clifford. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Odd Fellows, and stands well in both fraternities. The English Lutheran Church holds his membership. Mrs. Blakeley belongs to the Court of Honor. The family residence is at No. 519 Island avenue, and in addition to it, Mr. Blakeley owns other city property.

BLINN, Jesse, page 704.

BLISS, A. C., whose operations in Owen Township entitle him to a place among the agriculturalists of Winnebago County, was born in this same township on the old Bliss homestead in 1875, he being a son of James and Ann M. (Colton) Bliss. The parents were natives of North Adams, Mass., where the father was educated and spent his boyhood. Later he learned the carpenter trade, and worked for neighboring farmers for \$13 per month. His first wife was Miss Liddie E. Fife, who died on the Owen Township homestead in 1862. The father later married Miss Anna M. Colton who died July 1, 1882. In 1887 the father married (third) Amanda Henderson. The death of the father occurred on the homestead, when he was over seventy years old.

A. C. Bliss was educated in Owen Township where he grew to manhood. Choosing farming as his life work, he has continued in this line ever since, and upon the death of his father inherited part of the homestead. Mr. Bliss married Miss Harriet Harmon.

BLOMQUIST, Gust E., whose operations as a furniture dealer place him among the reliable and progressive business men of Rockford, is conveniently located at No. 1121 Fourteenth avenue, where he enjoys a fine trade. He was born in Westergötland, Sweden, December 27, 1883, a son of John and Sophia Blomquist. John Blomquist was also born in Westergötland and came to the United States with his wife in 1887, and locating in Rockford Township, engaged in

farming for a short time, but later came to Rockford and worked in different factories. Subsequently he moved to Wood County, Wis., where he bought a farm and operated it for ten years, when he retired.

Gust E. Blomquist was educated at Rockford, and his first work was done for the Rockford Cabinet Company, where he received seventy-five cents per day. He remained with this concern, being steadily advanced, and then went with the Rockford Furniture and Undertaking Company for six years, then with Hess Brothers department store. Mr. Blomquist then went to Marinette, Wis., to take a position with Lauerman Bros., managing their furniture department for nine months, when he returned to Rockford and established himself in a furniture business at No. 1209 Fourteenth avenue, but after eighteen months moved to his present address, where he has one of the finest houses in Rockford. When Mr. Blomquist was with the Rockford Furniture & Undertaking Company he patented what is known as the "Blomquist Short Rail," used for beds, which is being sold in large quantities from coast to coast, and is still bringing him excellent returns.

On October 5, 1910, Mr. Blomquist was married to Miss Esther M. Anderson, a daughter of L. John and Annie J. Anderson of Rockford, both being of Swedish descent. Mr. and Mrs. Gust E. Blomquist had one child, Wilbur, who died at the age of two months. Mr. Blomquist is a Republican. He is a member of the Swedish Free Church. A man of progressive ideas, he has known how to put them into practical use and has profited thereby.

BODFORS, Prof. Andrew Daniel, whose school of music and oratory is one of the best known in the state outside of Chicago, is a genius in his several lines, and amply able to impart to others his trained knowledge of music and the art of delivery. He was born at Cambridge, Minn., December 13, 1871, a son of Daniel J. and Christina (Johnson) Bodfors, natives of Sweden. In 1869 they came to Minnesota, locating at Cambridge, where they took up a homestead, which they subsequently sold but continued to live in the neighborhood. The father was a farmer. The mother of Prof. Bodfors died December 19, 1871. The father married a second time, and this wife died September 24, 1913. He died March 17, 1892.

When he was sixteen years old Andrew Daniel Bodfors entered Augustana College at Rock Island, as a student of music, the course including instruction on the piano, organ and other instruments, and he remained from 1887 until 1891, when he was graduated. He taught in the musical department of the college for a few months, and then became organist in the Augustana Lutheran Church at Minneapolis, Minn., holding that position for two years, when he went to Stockholm, Sweden, and studied music in the Royal Conservatory. In August, 1895, Augustana College secured his services as a

teacher of the piano and organ and he had charge of the musical department until 1904, when he came to Rockford and founded his present school of music and oratory on Sixth street. Three years later he bought the large residence of the late Dr. Clark at No. 302 S. Madison street, which he altered for his purposes. He has accommodation for from 250 to 500 pupils; his course is a nine months' one during the fall and winter months, and he also conducts a vacation course of six weeks. Since 1905 he has been organist of Zion Lutheran Church of Rockford, and without doubt is the most artistic and skilled musician in this city.

On June 26, 1901, Prof. Bodfors was married at Moline, Ill., to Alma S. Wahlberg, born at Moline, a daughter of C. M. and Mary (Swanson) Wahlberg of Sweden and Moline, respectively. Prof. and Mrs. Bodfors have one son, Franz D. W., who was born July 19, 1910. Prof. Bodfors belongs to Zion Lutheran Church of Rockford. In politics he is a Republican.

BOEHLAND, Gustave J., general manager and half owner of the E. & W. Clothing Company, at Nos. 118 and 122 S. Main street, is one of the men who has aided in making Rockford what it is today. He was born at Freeport, Ill., September 20, 1878, a son of Frederick and Frances Boehland. The father was born in Saxony, Germany, and when but a small boy, came to the United States. His home was at Madison, Wis., where he learned the blacksmithing trade, and followed it for a number of years. Later he moved to Stephenson County, Ill., and followed his trade in the vicinity of Freeport, and also conducted a farm, on which he and the mother still reside.

Gustave J. Boehland was reared and educated in Silver Creek Township, Stephenson County, Ill., but later moved to Freeport and became a clerk in Eunnega & Wagner's gent's furnishing store, with whom he remained for six and one-half years. In 1895 he came to Rockford and opened a branch store for this firm at No. 118 S. Main street, continuing as its manager. After three years Mr. Wagner died and the two remaining partners purchased Mr. Wagner's interest and continued under the same name. In 1898 the store was enlarged, and in 1901 the premises on the south were secured. In 1911 the firm rented three stores and a part of a fourth, known as the Winnebago Bank Building. They remodeled the premises, making one large store. At present the firm occupies the basements of all four stores, and also a second floor, and have the largest store of its kind in Rockford, their floor space being 25,980 square feet. The firm also operates a large store at Sioux City, Iowa. Employment is given here to forty-five people. When Mr. Boehland opened the Rockford store in 1895, he had one man and a boy to help him, so some idea can be gained from this comparison of the immense increase in the facilities and volume of business twenty years have produced. Mr. Boehland has long been a member of the firm.

In 1899 Mr. Boehland was married to Miss Rosalind Remington, a daughter of Major T. J. L. and Martha (Sauborn) Remington. Mr. and Mrs. Boehland have one son, Robert R. Mr. Boehland is very much interested in the welfare of children and has proved his interest in many ways. In 1914 he gave to the school children of Winnebago County, 12,000 American elm trees, and in 1915 gave them 12,000 apple trees, all of the best varieties. His residence is one of the most beautiful at Rockford, on Corey's Bluff, which overlooks Rock River. There are seventeen acres in the estate, and Mr. Boehland bought it of Samuel C. Withrow. Mr. Boehland is treasurer of the Illinois Retail Clothiers Association, a trustee of Rockford College, president of the Young People's Exposition, and fraternally is a member of the Royal Arcanum, the Elks and the Court of Honor.

BOLLMAN, Claude F., treasurer of the Illinois School Furniture Company of Rockford, is one of the men whose business acumen has been utilized in building up a sound concern that yields handsome returns to its stockholders, places upon the market reliable goods, and gives to the city a prestige that is appreciable. He was born at Clinton, Iowa, October 24, 1889, a son of Ben and A. Maude (Fenlon) Bollman, natives of Rock Island, Ill., and Clinton, Iowa. The mother is now living at the Nelson Hotel, Rockford.

Claude F. Bollman was educated in the grade schools of Elgin, Ill., and the grade and high schools of Rockford, being graduated from the latter with the class of 1908, following which he entered Cornell University, and took a course at that institution. His business career began when he entered the employ of Greenlee Bros. & Company, as draughtsman, and he later became one of the salesmen of this concern, representing them upon the road, continuing with the company for five years. On October 18, 1914, he assumed the duties of his present office, and since then has rendered efficient service.

On February 6, 1915, Mr. Bollman was married to Myra M. Bausch of Rockford. He is a member of the Elks. Socially he belongs to the Motor Club, and the Country Club, while he maintains his connections with his college fraternity, he being a Delta Phi. For some time he has been a member of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Bollman owns stock in the Union Dairy Company, the Barnes Drill Company, the Chicago Cold Storage Company of Chicago, in addition to his interest in the Illinois School Furniture Company, and is correctly numbered among the leading young business men of Rockford.

BOOM, William Hamilton, a retired farmer, and alderman from the First Ward of Rockford, is a man who has never failed to live up to his convictions, nor to support what he has believed to be right. He was born at Watertown, N. Y., September 11, 1854, a son of William and Cynthia (Wheeler) Boom. Both parents were natives of New York state, and there they married.



R. E. SHUMWAY



MRS. R. E. SHUMWAY

In September, 1855, they came to Illinois, making the trip by the great lakes from Buffalo, N. Y., to Sheboygan, Mich., on the sailing vessel *Queen City*. It was blown ashore by the wind, and the little party then took a railroad train from Sheboygan to Beloit, Wis., from whence they drove to Winnebago County. There they rented land near Rockton and Roscoe, but later went to New Milford Township, all in this county, and remained three years. The next change was made when they rented first, then bought, land in White Rock Township, Ogle County, Ill., and there the father died in 1897, aged eighty-seven years. The mother died in 1873, aged seventy-four years. In politics the father was a Democrat. In religious matters both parents were Methodists.

William Hamilton Boom grew up at White Rock, where he attended the neighborhood schools, and when old enough engaged in farming with his father. Later he bought a farm of 310 acres and conducted it until 1900, when he moved to Rockford, and bought his present home at No. 1915 E. State street. He also owns a farm at Westfield Corner, Winnebago Township, this county, of 270 acres, which is operated by his two sons, Robert William and Eugene Hamilton.

In 1882 Mr. Boom was married to Miss Catherine Miller, a daughter of Carl and Catherine (Jones) Miller, natives of Alsace, Germany, where they married, coming to the United States in 1861, and locating in Ogle County, Ill. They bought land in White Rock Township, and there continued until some time during the last term of President Cleveland, when Mr. Miller bought land at Haipville, Ga., near Atlanta, and there he died in 1903, aged seventy-five years. His wife died in 1912, aged eighty-three years. Mr. Miller was a Democrat. Mr. and Mrs. Boom became the parents of seven children as follows: Robert W., who lives on his father's farm; Gertrude Higley, who lives at Rockford; Clara Johnson, who lives at Greeley, Col.; Sarah L., who is teaching school at Boise City, Idaho; Eugene H., who is operating the homestead in conjunction with Robert W.; Norma E., who married Roscoe Martin, lives in Greeley, Colo.; and Catherine, who is attending Rockford College. A very strong supporter of temperance, Mr. Boom was manager of the dry campaign in April, 1908, when the drys won, and in 1915 he was made alderman from his ward. He is a Republican in his political views, but does not allow party lines to conflict with what he believes to be best in local matters. A Mason in good standing, Mr. Boom belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M. The Methodist Church has in him a consistent member. A man of broad sympathies, and deep understanding, Mr. Boom has done much for his community, and is always to be depended upon to support those measures looking toward moral uplift and civic betterment.

BOURLAND, Robert C., M. D., one of the leading and experienced physicians of Winnebago

County, who is conveniently located at No. 505 in the William Brown building, Rockford, has his residence at No. 914 North Main street this same city. He was born at Peoria, Ill., June 5, 1876, a son of Benjamin L. T. and Clara (Parsons) Bourland, natives of Kentucky and Massachusetts, respectively. The father conducted a real estate and loan business at Peoria under the firm name of Bourland & Bailey, and died September 26, 1915, aged ninety years. The mother survives and is seventy-seven years old.

Robert C. Bourland attended the Peoria public schools, in the meanwhile having the advantage of a European trip with his parents when he was six years old. The family remained abroad for three years, being in France, Switzerland and Germany, and during that period the lad studied under private instructors in these countries, and in a private school in Germany. Before completing his public school course, he went to Pettengill Seminary, and later entered the Peoria High school, from which he was graduated in 1893. He then took a six years' course in the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated in 1897 with the degree of A. B., and received his M. D. degree in 1899. For a short time he was an interne in the University Hospital, at Ann Arbor, Mich. Dr. Bourland was appointed instructor in anatomy in the University of Michigan, and held this position for three years, when he resigned in order to enter upon a general practice at Rockford, coming here January 20, 1903, where he has since remained. In 1900 he traveled in Europe, during which he visited the leading cities and viewed the great anatomical laboratories in London, Cambridge, Oxford, Antwerp, Brussels, Paris, Frankfurt, Jena, Berlin, Vienna, Munich, Berne, Basel, Strassburg, Amsterdam, Leiden and Rotterdam. Dr. Bourland is on the staff of the Rockford Hospital. He is also a member of the medical corps of the Illinois National Guards, holding the rank of major. He belongs to the Winnebago Medical Society, the Illinois Medical Society, the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States. His fraternal relations are with the Elks. He belongs to the Country and Gnn clubs, being president of the latter, to the Rockford Singers and Players' Club, of which he is president, and the Rockford University Club, and he is also an honorary member of the Mendelssohn Club.

On October 10, 1908, Dr. Bourland was married to Elizabeth M. Stimson of Appleton, Wis., born December 18, 1886, a daughter of James E. H. and Rebecca C (Cuffe) Stimson, natives of Wisconsin, now living in that state, Mr. Stimson being a photographer. Dr. and Mrs. Bourland have three children: Clara E. P., who was born July 12, 1909; Rebecca S., who was born October 8, 1910; and Robert C., who was born February 19, 1913. Mrs. Bourland is a member of the same social clubs as her husband, and both belong to the Art Society. They attend Emanuel Episcopal church, and Mrs. Bourland belongs to St. Margaret's guild, being active in church work.

BOWEN, George Marion, a progressive farmer of Durand Township, and a man of substance in his community, was born in Erie County, Pa., August 10, 1835, a son of Nelson L. and Amanda Malvina Fitzallen (Heath) Bowen, the former born at Baltimore, Md., in 1800, and the latter born in Washington County, N. Y., in 1818. The father died in 1845, and the mother died at Duluth, Minn., at the home of one of her children while on a visit, in 1908.

Although he farmed during his later years, by trade the father was a tanner and currier, and worked at these trades before coming to Illinois in 1837. The journey was made by boat and teams, and upon arriving in Winnebago County, the father entered land in Pecatonica Township to the extent of 160 acres. It was necessary for him to go to Dixon, Ill., to make the entry of his land and paid the purchase price, in silver. He and Mortimer Franklin started for Dixon with a "pung." The snow gave out before they reached their destination and they had to complete their journey on foot. The silver money in their pockets weighed so heavily that they found it difficult to carry it in that way and finally they put it in mittens and tied them on their backs. On the land he had secured, the father built a log house and cleared twenty-five acres of the timber around it, and here he lived until his death. The mother and her children then returned to her people in Pennsylvania, making the 600-mile journey with teams.

Thus it was that George M. Bowen was educated in the district and subscription schools of Pennsylvania and lived with relatives there until old enough to earn his own living. After her return to Pennsylvania, the mother married (second) Newman Campbell, and in 1851 she returned to the farm in Winnebago County, making the trip by the lakes to Chicago, from whence the party came with a hired team to the farm. In order to earn some money for himself, George M. Bowen first worked until he was able to buy a team of oxen and a plow, and then was employed for a year in a saw-mill. He began farming in Durand Township on rented land, operating various farms until, in 1908, he moved to his present comfortable home just south of the village of Durand, where he owns three acres of land on which he is living retired. He owns 160 acres of land in Michigan, and eighty acres in Wisconsin. While he rented and cultivated land, Mr. Bowen was provident and accumulated a comfortable competence so he and his wife are enabled to pass their last years in peaceful retirement. They belong to the pioneers of this region and only a few of their friends of the early days remain.

On October 9, 1855, Mr. Bowen was married to Miss Helen Monteith, who was born at Morgan, Ashtabula County, Ohio, May 11, 1835, a daughter of John and Elmira Lurana (Manchester) Monteith, the former born in New York state, and the latter in Massachusetts. The father was a shoemaker and worked at his trade in Ohio, and there married December 23, 1830.

In 1838 the Monteith family moved to Indiana where the father died in 1850, and three years later the mother came to Winnebago County with her two children, Mrs. Bowen and Scott Monteith, and they made their home with the mother's brother, Egbert Peppers. The mother died January 28, 1901, in Durand, when she was nearly eighty-nine years old. Mr. and Mrs. Bowen became the parents of eight children: Eulalie Isadora, who is deceased; Mary Leoline, who is deceased; Arden Everett, who lives at Los Angeles, Cal.; Clara Esmeralda, who is the wife of R. H. Towne, of Los Angeles, Cal.; Charles Scott, who is a resident of Los Angeles, Cal.; Jessie Miriam, who is the wife of Edward Dix of Chicago; Gerald Clark, who is a resident of Salt Lake City, Utah; and Helen Ethel, who is the wife of Herbert F. Spencer of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Bowen have ten grandchildren. In politics Mr. Bowen is independent. During the many years he has been a resident of Winnebago County, Mr. Bowen has seen material changes, and is well posted in early history. He has always been a reader and enjoys his books and papers today.

BOWER, Andrew C. There are no more respected men in Winnebago County than the retired farmers who, now that their years of great activity are over, are living in the enjoyment of the rest and plenty their toil has earned for them. One of these is Andrew C. Bower, of Rockford. He was born at Württemberg, Germany, December 5, 1835, a son of Frederick and Ragina Bower, who died in Germany.

Growing up in his native land, Andrew C. Bower received but limited educational advantages. In 1853 he left it with his brother Michael on a sailing vessel for New York City, the voyage across the Atlantic consuming forty-seven days. After their arrival in the new land, Andrew C. Bower first obtained work in a truck garden in New Jersey, and every morning went to New York City, carrying vegetables for the early trade. After two years, however, he left New Jersey and located four miles west of Chicago, where he acted as hostler for a dairyman for a few months. His next location was in South Chicago, where he assisted an uncle on a farm for one year. Following this experience, he came to Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, and from 1856 until 1861 worked among the farmers. In that year he went to Kankakee and spent a few months, but then returned to Cherry Valley. Marrying, he moved to Flora, Ill., but a year later returned to Cherry Valley and worked the Phon Fitch farm, operating this as a dairy farm. In 1867 he purchased a farm of his own in Cherry Valley Township, known as Skelly's Mill. He kept adding to his land until he owned 420 acres, which he conducted as a stock farm, raising cattle, horses and hogs, and feeding stock. In 1891, Mr. Bower retired and moved to Rockford, where he bought several pieces of property and rented his farm to his son, but later sold the farm. He owns his fine

residence on Charles street and is in very comfortable circumstances.

On October 8, 1861, Mr. Bower was married to Sarah Shetter, born in York County, Pa., a daughter of Peter and Catherine Shetter, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Bower became the parents of the following three children: Elizabeth, Sadie and Eugene. Elizabeth is Mrs. Charles Radcliff of South First street, Rockford, and her children are: Nina, Bessie, Sadie and Bower Radcliff. Eugene, who died in October, 1913, left a widow who lives on Longwood street. Sadie died at the age of eighteen years. Mr. Bower is a Republican in politics and has held a number of the township offices in Cherry Valley Township. Of natural intelligence, he pushed his way ahead and stands today a fine example of the self-made man.

BOWLES, Leroy, proprietor of the National Plating Works, is successfully engaged in carrying on a large business and proving his worth as a man and a citizen. This concern does all kinds of nickel, brass, copper plating and oxidizing, and makes a specialty of piano hardware manufacturing. It is conveniently located in the Talcott building, No. 66 Forbes street, Rockford. He was born at Rockford, February 18, 1887, and here received his educational training. Formerly he was foreman of the firm of Barber & Coleman, and before he entered the employ of this firm, he had had considerable experience with Spengler Bros. After going with Barber & Coleman he proved himself so valuable that he was made a foreman and so continued for five years, when he was made superintendent of the Rockford Plating Works, and in 1913, became proprietor of the business, manufacturing a similar line of goods, and adding the manufacture of piano hardware, now furnishing this line of goods to two large piano manufacturers. He also furnishes all of the finishing of the output of the Gem Bread Sealing Machine Company. His business in refinishing metals is also very heavy and he has the contract on 1,500 mitre boxes for the Fish Mitre Box Company. In the fall of 1914 he began doing work for the Creamery Supply Company of Janesville, Wis., and also furnishes the spark plugs for the Automatic Screw Machine Company, of Janesville, Wis. During 1914 he took the contract for 500 stove tops for a large Wisconsin firm. In the spring of 1915 he took the contract for the manufacturing and disposal of the B. B. Bread Sealing Machine Company. He refinishes practically all of the automobiles of Rockford for the various firms, and in 1915 began the finishing of all of the Rockford Brass Company's brass goods, which, in itself, is a very important and large contract. There is no other concern of its kind that does as large and varied a business, and Mr. Bowles is noted for the quality of his work and the faithfulness with which he executes his contracts.

On November 7, 1907, Mr. Bowles was married at Rockford, to Jennie Layng, born at Rockford, January 23, 1887. He belongs to the Odd Fel-

lows, Brotherhood of American Yeomen and the Homesteaders. The Methodist Church holds his membership and profits by his generosity. In politics he is a Republican. It is remarkable how Mr. Bowles has forged to the front, for his progress has been entirely of his own making, and his business future looks still brighter than his past. There is every reason for him to be proud of what he has accomplished.

BOWMAN, John A. Perhaps no one quality plays so important a part in the advancement of a man than that of being able, through inherent ability, to accomplish things. Many can lay excellent plans, but without the capacity to execute these same plans, no definite end is reached. John A. Bowman, county recorder of Winnebago County, is one of the best examples of the man who is able to carry out his plans successfully and capably. In every line he has entered, Mr. Bowman has reached his goal.

John A. Bowman was born at Smoland, Jönköpings, Lan, Sweden, January 22, 1860, a son of Samuel A. and Anna (Anderson) Bowman. In 1869 the family came to the United States, and upon landing made their way direct to Rockford, Ill. A short time afterward, they moved to the iron regions of Michigan where the father worked in the mines. In 1872 he left Michigan for Minnehaha County, S. Dak., where he took up a homestead, and he and the mother lived upon it until their death, the father passing away in 1901, and the mother in April, 1912.

In 1884 John A. Bowman left home and going to Valley Springs, S. Dak., was a clerk in a general store for a short time, when he established himself in the same line of business, continuing to operate it until March 1, 1890, when he came to Rockford, Ill., and engaged in a shoe business opposite the courthouse. That same year, he, together with his brother-in-law, Andrew Borg, built a two-story business block on the corner of Seventh street and Fourth avenue, into which Mr. Bowman moved upon its completion, and continued his shoe business for a year, when he sold it and became secretary of the Royal Sewing Machine Company, now the Illinois Sewing Machine Company. After two years in this connection, Mr. Bowman resigned to become secretary of the Excelsior Furniture Company. For two years he was associated with this concern, but resigned and opened a grocery, which he conducted from 1893 until 1899 when he sold to his partner, Algot Gasslander. In the latter year he went to South Dakota and for a year conducted a store for his brother-in-law. Returning to Rockford Mr. Bowman organized the B. & K. Clothing Company, first being a partner, and later, upon its re-organization, a stockholder and president and general manager. From this he resigned in 1908 and engaged in a real estate loan and fire insurance business. Mr. Bowman was on the board of review from 1907 to 1913, and in the fall of the latter year was elected county recorder, being the first man to hold that office in Winne-

bago County. He is a director of the Rockford Furniture Company, of which he was first president, this concern being capitalized for \$150,000; a director of the Central Life Insurance Company of Ottawa, Ill., and still owns the building he helped to erect in 1890, which was the third business block on Seventh street. Fraternally he is a Mason, member of the order of Elks, Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America. Zion Lutheran Church of Rockford holds his membership, and at one time was its treasurer and a trustee for many years.

On November 11, 1885, Mr. Bowman was married in South Dakota to Hannah Hetland, and they have the following children: Leland A., who is a partner with his father in the real estate business; Chester A.; Blanch May, who is a school teacher; and Irving C., John Stanley and Grace Evelyn. Each change Mr. Bowman has made has been for the bettering of his condition, and he has never been connected with a concern without advancing it, for he possesses a capability that enables him to expand and develop business fields, and renders him a very desirable addition to any establishment or any community.

BOYD, Nels. While the founders of Rockford's prosperity have nearly all passed away, a new generation has arisen to maintain the prestige already gained, and they have added to it in no small measure. One of the present day prosperous business men is Nels Boyd, owner and manager of the Seventh Street Hardware Company of Rockford. He was born in Sweden, March 3, 1873, a son of John and Elizabeth (Bongstrom) Boyd. They were born and married in Sweden, and there the mother died when Nels was four years old. In 1904 the father came to the United States, and died the year after his arrival in this country, aged seventy-nine years.

After a boyhood spent in Sweden, where he was educated, Nels Boyd came to the United States in 1890, and located at Rockford, where he found employment in the Chair-Furniture factory, and after a year there, was with other factories until 1898, when he went to the Klondike gold fields. He met with success and still owns paying property in Alaska. After fourteen years in the Klondike, he returned to Rockford and here with his brother-in-law, John Anderson, organized the Seventh Street Hardware Company in 1905.

While Mr. Boyd has made several visits to the Klondike since his first, he has continued his hardware business, and has so enlarged its scope that he finally required the large building which he erected in 1909. This is the second largest hardware establishment in Rockford and much of its present prosperous condition is due to Mr. Boyd's intelligent management. His success is all the more remarkable in that it is self earned, for when he first arrived at Rockford he had only twenty cents, and his first night in this city was spent in a box car in the yards of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad

Company. Now he is the owner of considerable property. In politics he is a Republican, although he has never sought any office. There are few men who stand higher in public esteem at Rockford than Mr. Boyd.

BOYER, J. Richard, junior member of the firm of Boyer Bros., whose bottling works are located at No. 111 N. Avon street, is justly included in the self-made men of Rockford. He was born at Keyser's Ridge, Garrett County, Md., April 29, 1878, a son of William P. and Anna (Mosser) Boyer. As the father was ambitious and sought new industrial fields in which to follow his trade, that of a carpenter, the family made several changes in residence, J. Richard growing up in Sabetha, Kas., and Rockford, Ill., arriving at the latter city in 1893.

Believing in the dignity of labor, the father saw to it that his sons learned through practical experience the worth of a dollar, and J. Richard Boyer early began working to support himself, engaging with the Rockford Watch Company, remaining with this concern for four years. He was with the Elgin Watch Company at Elgin, Ill., for ten years, and then returned to Rockford, to join his brother, Jonas E. Boyer, in establishing their present firm. The brothers manufacture ginger ale and soda waters, and their product is marketed at Rockford, Ill., and vicinity.

On June 6, 1905, Mr. Boyer was married to Miss Norma Harding, a daughter of A. B. and Carrie (Thurston) Harding, natives of Sweden. Mr. Boyer belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and the National Guards. A young man of high principles, and steady habits, he, with his brother, is entitled to the confidence of the public.

BOYER, Jonas E., senior member of the firm of Boyer Bros., proprietors of the bottling works at No. 111 N. Avon street, is one of the substantial men of Rockford. He was born at Dills Mills, Somerset County, Pa., July 7, 1876, a son of William P. and Anna (Mosser) Boyer. The father was born in Somerset County, Pa., while the mother was a native of Virginia. For some years the father was engaged in a sawmill business in his native county, but moved to Sabetha, Kas., in 1888, where he was a contracting carpenter for three years, and then to Rockford, Ill., where he has still engaged in carpenter contracting. The mother also survives.

Jonas E. Boyer was reared in Kansas, and in Garrett County, Md., attending school through boyhood. His father believed it the wisest plan to compel his sons to work their own way in life unassisted, and the lad's first business experience was as a driver of a coal wagon. He also drove an ice wagon for a time and then engaged in a bakery commission business and worked up an excellent trade, continuing in this line for fourteen years, during this time forming a very valuable connection. On April 1, 1915, he embarked in a bottling business at No. 406 N. Avon



Eng by E. G. Williams & Bro NY

Fred J. Keyhan.

Munsell Publishing Co

street. Rockford, moving a little later to his present location.

In 1913 Mr. Boyer was married to Miss Blanche Allen, a daughter of Thomas and Emma (Gregory) Allen of Rockford. In politics Mr. Boyer is a Republican. A man of earnest purpose, he has steadily forged ahead, and his present prosperity is the result.

BRANDON, Martin W., manager, secretary and treasurer of the Indestructible Luggage Company, with headquarters at No. 217 S. Main street, is one of the sound business men of Rockford, one whose judgment, resourcefulness, shrewdness and force of character have contributed largely to his success in life. He was born in Norway, May 4, 1886, a son of Thomas and Mary (Olson) Brandon, natives of Norway. The father, who was a graduate of the agricultural school at Christiania and later an assistant instructor in the school, came with his family to the United States in 1888, locating at Eau Claire, Wis. He is still engaged in educational work. In politics he is a Republican. He belongs to the Lutheran church. A man of scholarly attainments he has been a force in his community, and is held in the highest esteem. The mother died of typhoid fever after reaching the new home, her age being forty-seven years.

Martin W. Brandon was reared amid scholarly surroundings, and given careful educational training. When he started out for himself his first work was with the Eau Claire Trunk Company, and he learned the trunk business with this concern, and later became its representative on the road, being with it eight years in all. He then went with the Minneapolis Dry Goods Company, taking charge of its leather, gas fixture and toy departments, and held this position for four years. In September, 1914, he came to Rockford to assume his present duties. Mr. Brandon is a stockholder in his company, and one of the most forceful of its officials. Live, alert, understanding every detail, Mr. Brandon is not only a valuable addition to his company, but to Rockford as well, and he stands very high among his business associates.

On June 23, 1915, Mr. Brandon was married to Miss Lillian Rosen, a daughter of Peter Rosen of Minneapolis, Minn.

BRAZEE, Christopher M., page 720.

BRECKENRIDGE, E. M. Progressive methods are prevailing among the successful agriculturists of Winnebago County, and one who has taken a deep interest in advancement along this line is E. M. Breckenridge, of Guilford Township. He was born in the township where he now lives, in March, 1870, a son of H. C. and Ellen (McPhail) Breckenridge, of Argyleshire, Scotland. They came to Winnebago County and located in Guilford Township where they developed a fine farm. There the mother died in March, 1898, since which time the father has made his home with Mrs. John G. Ralston, of Rockford. The children of these parents were

as follows: E. M., of Guilford Township; Margaret, who is Mrs. J. G. Ralston; Mary Ellen, who is Mrs. William T. Eachran, of Caledonia, Ill.; and Elizabeth, who is Mrs. J. Earl Ralston, of Beloit, Wis.

E. M. Breckenridge is a well educated man, having attended the public school of his township, the Rockford Business College and Lake Forest Academy. The homestead engrossed his attention until 1907, but in that year he moved to Rockford and went into a flour and feed business. Eighteen months later he sold this business, and in the spring of 1912 returned to the county, having in the meanwhile purchased his father's farm of 160 acres, all of which is improved. Here he carries on general farming and raises Holstein cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. For nine years Mr. Breckenridge served as secretary of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Guilford Township. He is a man of more than ordinary enterprise.

In December, 1909, Mr. Breckenridge was married to Ethel J. McKerrall, born at Chatham, Ontario, Canada, a daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (McKean) McKerrall of Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. Breckenridge have two daughters: Annetta Jean, born July 15, 1912, and Ina Maud, born May 19, 1916. The Westminster Presbyterian Church of Rockford holds his membership, and he served it as trustee for three years. In politics Mr. Breckenridge is independent, preferring to cast his vote and exert his influence for the best man according to his own judgment.

BRECKENRIDGE, James Arthur, one of the most substantial agriculturalists of Winnebago County, occupies his fine farm in Guilford Township that was originally the property of his father. He was born in this township, March 18, 1882, a son of Edward and Barbara (Cummings) Breckenridge, natives of Scotland and Boone County, Ill., respectively. The grandparents, Angus and Isabel (Loynachan) Cummings, natives of Scotland, were early settlers in Boone County, Ill., having come there from Ohio where they had located when young soon after their marriage. Angus Cummings was a son of Robert and Barbara (McEchran) Cummings, who died in Scotland. Isabel Loynachan was a daughter of David and Isabel (Breckenridge) Loynachan, who died in Ohio. Angus Cummings died in Boone County, Ill., July 10, 1910, aged eighty-seven years, and his wife died in the same place November 14, 1910, aged eighty-two years. Their children were as follows: Barbara, who became the mother of James Arthur Breckenridge; David, who died in infancy; Isabel, who lives with her nephew, James A. Breckenridge, having been his housekeeper since the death of his father; Mary, who is Mrs. James Reid, of Boone County; Katherine, who is Mrs. John Jones, of Lenox, Iowa; Robert, who is of Boone County, Ill.; Nettie, who is of Caledonia, Ill.; Angus, who died December 25, 1909; and Agnes, who died in infancy.

Edward Breckenridge secured 220 acres of fine

land in Guilford Township, this county, and carried on farming there until his death on January 27, 1909. His wife died January 22, 1912. Their children were as follows: Edward, who died at the age of two years; Robert E., who lives at Tacoma, Wash.; and James Arthur, of Winnebago County.

James Arthur Breckenridge attended the Bell district school and also took a course at Johnson's Business College, Rockford. From the time he attained his majority until his father's death, he rented the homestead, and when his father passed away, he received his half of the farm. In 1911 he bought his brother's share, and now owns the entire farm which he devotes to general farming and the raising of cattle, horses and hogs, being very successful in his work. He belongs to the Argyle Presbyterian Church of Willow Creek. In politics he is a Republican, but has not entered into public life to any extent, his interest being centered upon his farm and its attendant responsibilities, but he maintains intelligent views concerning local affairs and keeps well posted.

On October 14, 1915, Mr. Breckenridge was married to Fannie E. Clark, who was born December 29, 1890, in Rock County, Wis., a daughter of Leroy and Fannie (McCulloch) Clark, natives of Wisconsin, now of Rockford.

BRECKENRIDGE, Robert, who is profitably engaged in operating his large farm according to modern methods, is proving the value of science in farm work. He was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, January 18, 1848, a son of Edward and Margaret (Mitchell) Breckenridge, who in August, 1854, came to New York and from thence went on up into Canada. Still later the father bought a farm in Guilford Township, Winnebago County, Ill., and moved on it in March, 1855. There were eighty acres of prairie land in this farm, and ten acres of timber land. He also owned thirteen acres of timber land in Boone County, Ill. The father improved his place and lived on it until his death in October, 1865, aged sixty-seven years. The mother died March 27, 1902, aged ninety-seven years. Of their eleven children, only three survive, these being: Elizabeth, who is the widow of William Reid of Rockford; Hugh C., who lives in Winnebago County; and Robert.

Robert Breckenridge attended the schools of his district and after the death of his father he assisted his mother and then later rented the place from her until he was twenty-eight years old, when he purchased the interest of the other heirs. Since buying the property, he has made many improvements, including the remodeling of the house in 1900, and the erection of other buildings, all of which are modern. Mr. Breckenridge purchased eighty acres of fine land connecting with his homestead in 1895, of which about twenty-five acres were cleared, the balance being in timber. He now has the whole 160 acres under cultivation and in a fine state.

On June 10, 1875, Mr. Breckenridge was married to Catherine McMillan, born in Roscoe

Township, December 28, 1850, a daughter of Niel and Margaret (McCarthy) McMillan, natives of Argyleshire, Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. Breckenridge became the parents of the following children: James E., who was born July 21, 1876, died June 27, 1904; Margaret, who was born May 17, 1878, is Mrs. Robert Watson of Guilford Township; Mary, who was born September 30, 1880, is Mrs. Matthew Andrew of Harlem Township; Catherine L., who was born June 17, 1883, is Mrs. George Raymond Picken of Rockford; Arthur Niel, who was born June 8, 1885, is at home; Elizabeth Jennie, who was born September 19, 1891, is at home; Nettie Grace, who was born September 25, 1893; Robert Hugh, who was born August 7, 1896. Willow Creek Presbyterian Church holds the membership of Mr. Breckenridge and family. He is a Republican, and served as a school director for twenty-one years, and was elected a school trustee in the spring of 1914, and still holds that office.

BRIGGS, Chester C., page 706.

BRINCKERHOFF, Geo. C., page 648.

BROITZMANN, August G., junior member of the well known firm of Schmeling & Broitzmann, and one of the well known business men of Winnebago County, was born in Scott Township, Ogle County, Ill., February 10, 1866, a son of Carl and Wilhelmina (Wendt) Broitzmann, both natives of Germany. The father came to the United States, and located first at Milwaukee, Wis., in 1860, the mother coming later. The father and a friend used to walk from Milwaukee to Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, each spring, and spend the summer working on farms, walking back in the fall to work at Milwaukee during the winter, there usually being employed in cutting wood.

August G. Broitzmann was educated in the Beacon District school, attending it during the winter, while in the summer he worked on the farm, so continuing until 1881, when he came to Rockford and went to work at the carpenter trade for William Reitsch. After eleven years, he was associated with John Deuel for eight months, and with W. W. Johnson & Son for a year. For five years he was a member of the firm of Wagner, Broitzmann & Newcomer, and then for seven years he was foreman, and for three years more was general shop superintendent of the Spafford planing mill. In 1910 he became a partner of Emil Schmeling, under the name of Schmeling & Broitzmann. Mr. Broitzmann was the youngest of the six charter members of St. Paul's German Lutheran Church, and is still very much interested in it.

On December 16, 1887, Mr. Broitzmann was married, in Ogle County, to Wilhelmina Klewin, born in Posen, Germany, October 25, 1869, a daughter of John and Wilhelmina Klewin. They and their three youngest children, Edward, Wilhelmina and Reinhard, came to Rockford in 1883, Gustav, Pauline and Henrietta having

come here several years before. In Germany Mr. Klewin was a shepherd, but after coming to Rockford, he lived in retirement with his family, and he and his wife died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Broitzmann, he passing away August 28, 1908, aged eighty-six years, and she in March, 1909, aged seventy-nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Broitzmann have four children, namely: Mabel L., born May 8, 1890, and is employed by her father as bookkeeper; Margaret H., born March 16, 1894; Gertrude L., born January 21, 1897; and Ruth Emma Henrietta, born October 8, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Broitzmann have resided in their present home since 1887, it being a large modern dwelling. An excellent business man and reliable citizen, Mr. Broitzmann is held in high esteem by all who know him.

BROOKS, Frank C., M. D. The medical profession has many able representatives in Winnebago County and among them is Dr. Frank C. Brooks of No. 402 Seventh street, Rockford. Dr. Brooks was born at Dayton, Ohio, a son of Frank C. and Emily J. (Woolsey) Brooks, natives of Virginia. The father was a mechanic, and a very worthy man. Dr. Brooks' parents suffered severely during the Civil war because of their loyalty to the Union, their home being utterly destroyed by the enemy. The father served for more than three years as a member of the Thirty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and Dr. Brooks is very proud of his war record.

Frank C. Brooks attended the public schools of Dayton, and was graduated from its high school, following which he spent two years in the Wesleyan University at Ada, Ohio. For the next two years he was in the medical department of the University of Ohio, at Columbus, and then took a four-year course at Hahnemann College, Chicago, from which institution he was graduated in 1900. Immediately thereafter Dr. Brooks entered upon a general practice at Washington, Ill., but within seven months came to Rockford, where he has since resided. He has built up a very valuable connection. Dr. Brooks belongs to the Winnebago County Medical Society, and is a member of the staff of St. Anthony's Hospital. Fraternally Dr. Brooks is a Knight of Pythias.

Dr. Brooks was married at Peoria, Ill., November 15, 1900, to Gertrude A. Carlson, born at Galesburg, Ill., April 8, 1882, and they have one daughter, Verna L., who was born at Rockford, December 10, 1903. Both Dr. Brooks and wife are members of the Court of Honor, Knights and Ladies of Honor and the Mystic Workers.

BROWN, Charles E. Although not now so actively engaged in farming as formerly, Charles E. Brown has not lost his interest in agricultural matters and is accounted an expert upon many matters pertaining to his line of work. He was born in Owen Township, September 15, 1841, a son of Mowry and Lucy A. (Pease) Brown, he born near Providence, R. I., and she at Oak Orchard, N. Y.

Mowry Brown came to Alton, Ill., in 1834, and

engaged in carpenter work. There he married, and in May, 1838, came to Rockford on a Mississippi River steamboat. For a few years following his arrival at Rockford, he worked at the carpenter trade and then entered 160 acres in Owen Township. Although he did some farming, it was not very profitable as there was no market for his produce nearer than Chicago, and trips to that city had to be made overland by teams, so he had to continue work at his trade. He added to his land however, until he owned 240 acres. He died on his farm in June, 1878, and his widow died about 1888. They had eleven children as follows: George S., who is of Rockford; Charles E.; Mary, who is Mrs. Egbert Phelps of Rockford; William, who died at the age of twenty-one years; Henry, who lives on King street, Rockford; Florence, who died at the age of eleven years; Ellen, who died at the age of nine years; Fred, who lives at Rockford; and Richard E., who lives on Glen Road, Rockford.

Charles E. Brown attended the district schools of his township and for six months was a student in the Rockford High school. He remained at home until 1864, when he moved on eighty acres of land he owned in Owen Township. This he operated until 1870 when he went into partnership with his father in making white brick, this association continuing for two years, when George S. Brown bought the father's interests and the brothers continued together for eight years on the father's farm. Mr. Brown then bought 240 acres in Owen Township which he conducted for six years, when he purchased sixty acres in the north part of Rockford and farmed it until 1890. He then sold this in city lots, with the exception of seven acres which he retained and built on this property a comfortable modern brick house in 1887. He owns now eighty-seven acres of land in Owen Township, and 110 acres of land in Rockford Township on which his son Ralph is located. Mr. Brown personally looks after the farms. Almost continuously since 1858 he has conducted a threshing machine in season, a J. I. Case eight horsepower being his first purchase. During the years he was manufacturing brick he did not operate a thresher, but with this exception has been in the business ever since.

On December 27, 1864, Mr. Brown was married to Frances Mary Burritt, born in New York state, November 5, 1844, a daughter of Charles and Laura (Remington) Burritt, natives of Connecticut who came to Winnebago County in 1856, settling in Owen Township, where she died in April, 1878, and he in 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Brown became the parents of the following children: Harry W., who lives in Manitoba, Canada; Nellie Laura, who is Mrs. Charles E. Jackson of N. Second street, Rockford; Mabel Frances, who married A. B. Rowan, is deceased; Morey C., who lives on Melrose street, Rockford; Ralph E., who lives in Rockford Township; and Maude E., who is Mrs. Ernest Stockburger, lives with Mr. Brown. The Christian Union church holds his membership. Independ-

ent in politics he has accepted no office but that of school director. He is a Mason, and he and his wife belong to the order of the Eastern Star.

BROWN, Fred O., one of the extensive land-owners of Winnebago County, and a prosperous farmer of Rockford Township, is a native son of this county, born November 22, 1856, a son of Morey and Lucy (Pease) Brown. Morey Brown was born at Providence, Mass., in 1813, and died in June, 1879. His wife was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., in 1814, and died in 1889, and is buried at Rockford. The father came to Winnebago County in 1838, from Alton, Ill., and bought government land to the extent of 200 acres, upon which he lived until his death. A man of considerable importance, he held a number of township offices. The mother was a Baptist in religious faith.

Fred O. Brown was educated in the public schools of his native place, and has been a farmer all his life. Some years ago, Mr. Brown went to Nebraska and spent nine years in that state, engaged in agricultural operations. Returning to Winnebago County, he has made it his home ever since. On December 31, 1878, Mr. Brown was married to Mary Halsted, a daughter of Jonathan Hobby and Deborah (Kennard) Halsted, and they have five children, namely: Lester D., Clinton O., Edna May, born in 1883 and died June 13, 1889, Walter E., Beatrice Elizabeth, who is Mrs. Charles Mabe, and Winfield H.

Jonathan Hobby Halsted, father of Mrs. Brown, was born at Somers, N. Y., February 28, 1819, and was married on February 14, 1855, to Deborah Kennard, at Lewistown, N. Y. She was a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Field) Kennard, natives of Hastings, England, and was born August 23, 1826. Mrs. Halsted came to the United States in an old sailing vessel that took six weeks and two days to make the voyage. Her father located at Somers, N. Y. On April 15, 1856, Mr. Halsted and his wife started for Winnebago County, Ill., and upon his arrival he bought eighty acres of land to which additions have been made until Mr. and Mrs. Brown now have 180 acres comprising one of the finest farming properties in this section. Every improvement has been made upon it that is calculated to add to its value or the comfort of the occupants. On this farm Mr. Halsted died June 9, 1904, aged eighty-five years, a consistent member of the Second Congregational Church of Rockford; Mrs. Halsted died February 4, 1915, aged eighty-eight years. They had the following children: Mary Elizabeth, who is Mrs. Brown; Lester Bedell, who is in an insurance business at Chicago; and De Forest, who is deceased. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Brown were Samuel and Rebecca (Marshall) Halsted. They own forty acres in Lake County, Michigan.

BROWN, George W., page 734.

BROWN, Mowry Charles. Business ability is not confined to any one line, nor does it necessitate the concentration of a man's energies upon a single avenue of endeavor. Rather does it tend towards an opening of new fields for his activities. An excellent instance of this is shown in the career of Mowry Charles Brown, of Rockford, who is not only interested in farming operations, but also owns and conducts a flourishing plumbing establishment, and is his father's partner in a threshing outfit the older man has conducted many years.

Mowry Charles Brown was born in Owen Township, Winnebago County, September 14, 1878, a son of Charles E. Brown, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. He was educated in the district schools and the high school in his neighborhood, and after leaving school became a farmer and has been additionally interested as above stated, in plumbing and conducting a threshing outfit.

On September 2, 1899, Mr. Brown was married to Esther B. Williams, a daughter of William W. and Rose (Edwards) Williams. Mr. and Mrs. Brown became the parents of the following children: Leonard M., Mildred I., Marjorie B., Charles R., and Rosana and Frances, twins. Mr. Brown was a school director, serving for two terms of three years each. He is a member of the Masonic lodge of Rockford, and at one time belonged to the Modern Woodmen of America and to the Maccabees. Energetic, always willing to work and be prudent, he has progressed and is justly numbered among the successful men of his county.

BROWN, Ralph Egbert, is not only a very desirable citizen of Winnebago County but also one of its most successful agriculturists, operating a fine farm in Rockford Township. He was born in Owen Township, Winnebago County, Ill., November 13, 1880, a son of Charles E. and Frances (Burritt) Brown. He grew to manhood in his native township, during which period he attended the graded and high schools of Rockford, and the Rockford Business College. At the age of twenty-two years, he entered the employ of Burr Bros., grocers. Following this he operated his father's farm for four years, then bought fifty acres in Rockford Township, one mile west of his father's property. Three years later he sold this farm and spent a year at Rockford, but in 1909 he returned to his father's farm of 110 acres, on which he carries on general farming and engages also in stock raising.

On January 25, 1900, Mr. Brown was married to Viola O. Phipps, born in Laona Township, September 14, 1879, a daughter of Homer A. and Effie E. (Sarver) Phipps, natives of Winnebago County. The grandparents, William and Emma (Webster) Phipps, natives of Michigan and New York, respectively, and Samuel and Lydia (Baldozer) Sarver, natives of Pennsylvania, were all people of excellent repute. Mrs. Brown



CC Smith

was educated in the Rockford public schools and a business college. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have the following children: Cecil L., who was born October 4, 1900; Ona May, who was born May 22, 1902; Chrystal Isabell, who was born March 24, 1903; Wayne Leamon, who was born June 27, 1910; and Effie Lavina, who was born May 18, 1912.

Mr. Brown served for six years as a school director in his present district and held the same position for two years in his former district. He has been deputy sheriff, and is known as a very efficient and faithful official. He is independent in politics. Maple Grove Grange holds his membership and he is now steward of that organization.

BROWN, William, page 663.

BUCHANAN, T. W., is one of the prosperous farmers of Roscoe Township, and a man of substance in his neighborhood. He was born at La Chute, near Montreal, Canada, April 10, 1854, a son of T. P. and Anne (Cole) Buchanan, both natives also of La Chute, where they were married. In 1857 they came to the United States, when their son, T. W., was but three years old. They located at Roscoe but a little later the father bought land in Roscoe Township and on it followed farming the remainder of his life, owning at the time of his death 420 acres. He passed away in 1897, aged sixty-five years. He was a Mason, a Republican, and a member of the Methodist Church. For twenty-five years he served as road commissioner of Roscoe Township. The mother died in 1887, aged fifty-five years. Her parents both died in Canada, never having left the Dominion.

T. W. Buchanan grew up in Roscoe Township, where he attended the public schools and then began farming. This continued to be his occupation, he at first operating his father's farm, but in 1887 he moved on the farm he inherited from his mother's estate, in Roscoe Township. He is now the owner of 280 acres of land in a fine condition and he conducts it according to the most modern methods.

In 1875 Mr. Buchanan was married to Lydia Love. Her parents were natives of London, England, and of Canada, respectively. In 1816 the father of Mrs. Buchanan came to New York City, where he worked as a carpenter, but within a year went to Canada, where he married. He then returned to the United States, locating in Illinois, securing government land in Harlem Township, Winnebago County, on which he built a log house. Later he moved to the vicinity of Roscoe where he bought a small farm and lived in retirement, dying in 1876 at the age of sixty years. He had been idustrious and provident and at the time of his death owned business property at Roscoe, and 700 acres of land. He was a Mason and a Democrat. The mother survived him, dying in 1887, aged seventy-one years.

Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan have had the following children born to them: Blanch L., who lives at Rockton; Thomas Paul, who lives at Har-

rison; Willard Ross, who lives at Roscoe; Cole L., who lives at Roscoe; Mark L., who lives with his parents; James D., who is at home; Fred Arthur, who lives at Rockton; and Theodore Ward and Anna Joy, both of whom are at home. Mr. Buchanan belongs to Roscoe Lodge A. F. & A. M., and both he and wife belong to the Eastern Star. In politics he is a Republican. He is the only resident left between the creek at Roscoe and Beloit who grew up in the county. At one time he worked for a short period at the plow factory at Roscoe owned by William Richardson, but aside from that has devoted himself to agricultural pursuits.

BUCK, William Perry, a veteran of the Civil war, and an honored resident of Rockford, was born in Kane Township, Erie County, Pa., November 30, 1844, a son of Truman and Eliza (Brown) Buck who came to Illinois in 1851, locating first in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, but in 1853 going to Flora, Boone County, Ill. There William P. Buck was reared and educated, and from Flora he enlisted for service during the Civil war, on September 15, 1862, in Company F, Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

The movements of this regiment are well worth recalling. It was organized by John E. Smith, of Galena, Ill., and was known as the Washburn Lead Mine Regiment, and prior to Mr. Buck's enlistment had already participated in some very important engagements. On September 17, 1862, the regiment was returned to Camp Jackson, and on November 2 of that same year it moved from Jackson to La Grange, Tenn., where it did provost guard duty until November 28, when it moved forward with the army on the Holly Springs campaign, and marched and counter-marched until December 22, when it was stationed north of the Tallahatchie River and there remained until January 1, 1863. The regiment then resumed its northward march on Memphis. In February the regiment moved with Gen. Grant's army on transports down the river from Memphis to take part in the Vicksburg campaign. After several stops, at Milliken's Bend volunteers were called for to run the batteries with transports to Vicksburg. Officers and men of the regiment volunteered for this duty and the matter was decided by making a detail of the quota assigned to the Forty-fifth. This detail comprised the crew which took the steamer Anglo Saxon, safely through, loaded with a full cargo of commissary stores. May 1, 1863, found the Forty-fifth on the east bank of the Mississippi at Bruinsburg, below Vicksburg, and the same day the regiment started with Grant's army on the famous campaign which ended in the capture of Vicksburg. The regiment participated in all the battles of the campaign, forming part of Logan's division.

The position of the Forty-fifth during the siege of Vicksburg was at the White House, on Jackson Road, in front of the enemy's Fort Hill, which was regarded as the key to the

fortress. The regiment took part in three charges against the enemy's works, on the 19th and 22nd of May and the 25th of June. On the 22nd, Major Luther H. Cowan was instantly killed. About a month was occupied in running a sap, a narrow trench, and digging a mine under Fort Hill, and on June 25, the mine having been charged, the match was applied, and the Forty-fifth was selected as the storming party, when the breach should be made. Immediately after the explosion the regiment rushed into the crater, but was met with a murderous fire from the enemy still protected by an embankment of about three feet in width, which had been thrown up by them in an inner line to provide for the demolishment of the works. The loss to the Forty-fifth in this charge was eighty-three officers and men, killed and wounded. Among those killed were Melancthon Smith, lieutenant-colonel, Leander B. Fisk, major, and a number of non-commissioned officers and privates. Among the wounded was Jasper A. Maltby, colonel of the regiment. When the city surrendered, by order of General Grant, on account of its conspicuous service during the siege, the Forty-fifth was given the advance of the Union army when it entered the stronghold, and its flag was raised upon the courthouse by Col. William E. Strong, of General McPherson's staff.

The regiment was detailed on provost guard duty at Vicksburg on July 4, and continued on such until October 14, when it was relieved to take part in the Canton raid, during which a skirmish occurred. From November 7, 1863, until February 3, 1864, the regiment was in camp at Black River, in January of that year the regiment having reenlisted as veterans nearly to a man. From February 3 to March 4 the regiment took part in the Meridian raid, and was engaged in the skirmish at Chunky Station, where three men were wounded. On March 17 the regiment again rendezvoused at Cairo, Ill., and rejoined the army then on the Atlanta campaign, and took its part in the engagements in this section until the beginning of the march to the sea. It was then detached to the Seventeenth Army Corps as it had been during the Vicksburg campaign. Atlanta was left on November 15, and Savannah was reached December 21, 1864. On January 4, 1865, the regiment left Savannah, and after participating in the engagements of the corps to which it was attached, reached camp February 28, having marched 300 miles in less than a month. On March 3 it moved to Goldsboro, N. C., and at Fayetteville, March 11, the regiment was distinguished by having a private, William C. Taylor receive the surrender of the city from the hands of the mayor. On April 10, 1865, the line of march from Goldsboro was continued, and the Forty-fifth moved on to Raleigh and Greensboro, then back again to Raleigh where it received news of the surrender of Lee's and Johnston's armies, and knew that the war was over. With the rest of the Seventeenth Army Corps it participated in the Grand Review at Washington,

having a record of marching from May 14, 1864, to May 19, 1865, 1,750 miles. On June 6 the regiment left camp at Washington, D. C., for Louisville, Ky., arriving there June 8, and from there the regiment was discharged July 12, arriving at Chicago for final pay July 15, 1865.

Upon his return from his military duties, Mr. Buck engaged in farming in Boone County until 1890, when he came to Cherry Valley Township, this county, and continued farming until 1907, in that year moving to Rockford which still continues his home.

On March 12, 1868, Mr. Buck was married to Ellen Henebry, a native of Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. Buck became the parents of three children: Harry R., who resides on a fruit farm in the state of Washington; Ada Elizabeth, who is Mrs. Robert Hill, who lives in the city of North Yakima, Washington, and Mary Eva, who lives with her father at their residence, 828 N. Winnebago street, Rockford. Mrs. Buck died June 24, 1906. Mr. Buck belongs to the Masons and to the Eastern Star, also to the Odd Fellows, and not only is a valued member of Nevius Post, G. A. R., but is serving it officially. In 1911 he was elected an officer of the guard of this organization; in 1912 was elected an officer of the day; in 1913 was elected junior vice commander; in 1914 was made senior vice commander of Nevius Post, No. 1. In 1915, Mr. Buck attended the Fiftieth Encampment, at Washington, D. C., and the Grand Review on September 28, 1915.

During his residence in Cherry Valley, Mr. Buck was very prominent politically. He was road commissioner for nine years, was trustee of the village board for two years, and was on the committee of Cherry Valley designated to look after the dependent soldiers' families. A Republican, he was a member of the Cherry Valley Township Central committee of his party for a number of years. During his whole life Mr. Buck has always acted up to what he has believed to be his full duty, and the esteem in which he is held by all is deserved.

BUDLONG, John. For many years one of the potent factors in the commercial and industrial life of Rockford was the late John Budlong, to whose energy and aggressive foresight the city owes much of its present importance. Mr. Budlong was president of the Royal Sewing Machine Company and a stockholder in several other companies. His birth occurred at Rodman, Jefferson County, N. Y., February 18, 1833, his parents being Clark and Mary (Lucas) Budlong.

The Budlong family is of English extraction. Francis Budlong, who was an early settler in the American colonies, married in 1669, Rebecca Howard, at Warwick, R. I. He was one of the townsmen who pledged to stand together against the encroachments of Connecticut and send agents to England for redress. He and his family, with the exception of one son, was killed by the Indians in 1675. This son, John Budlong, born in 1672, was taken captive at the time, but was afterwards released by his captors and

placed in the care of his uncle, Moses Lippit. He married Isabel Potter. The line of descent follows: Moses Budlong, born in 1708, at Warwick, R. I.; Samuel, born in 1736, at Warwick, R. I.; Aaron, born in 1776; Green, born in Rhode Island; Clark, born in Herkimer County, N. Y.; John, born in 1833, at Rodman, Jefferson County, N. Y. Green Budlong, the grandfather of John Budlong, moved from Rhode Island to Herkimer County, N. Y., and in 1800 purchased land near Litchfield, where he resided until 1805, when he went to Jefferson County, the same state, and died in the town of Rodman, where he had lived for some years. There his son, Clark Budlong, who had been born in Herkimer County in 1804, was reared, and he spent his life in Jefferson County, becoming a farmer and sawmill owner. He died in his own hotel, at Rodman, in 1844. His wife was born at Middletown, Conn., in 1806, she being a daughter of John W. and Esther (Stowe) Lucas, natives of Connecticut.

John Budlong was reared in his native place, and secured his education in the Rodman Seminary, the Jefferson County Institute at Watertown, the Adams Institute of the same place, and the Falley Seminary at Fulton, N. Y. When he was eighteen years old he commenced teaching school, and in 1853 went to North Carolina, where for twelve months he taught a school at Edenton. From there he went to Gaytown, the same state, and taught for another year, when he was called to Texas to take charge of a school in Washington County, and taught it for a year. Until the fall of 1860 he was engaged in teaching in Missouri, but at that time located in Adams, Jefferson County, N. Y., where he continued teaching, and at the same time began the study of law. In the year of his return he was elected a justice of the peace. His civic and educational duties were broken in upon by the declaration of war, and in April, 1861, he enlisted for service during the Civil war in Company G, Thirty-fifth New York Volunteer Infantry, being commissioned a second lieutenant, and one year later he was promoted to a first lieutenantcy, and as the captain of the company was on detached service. Lieutenant Budlong was in charge until the expiration of his period of enlistment. After receiving his honorable discharge, Mr. Budlong returned home and soon thereafter purchased the plant of the Northern New York Journal, at Watertown, editing it until 1867, when he sold it and moved to Winnebago County and bought 180 acres of land adjoining Rockford. This was a fortunate investment, for the city grew so rapidly that in 1889 Mr. Budlong platted a portion of his property and laid it out in city lots and for sites for manufacturing plants. From time to time Mr. Budlong invested in various concerns, and became a man of quite large means. His public spirit led him to take an intelligent part in civic affairs, he always acting with the Republican party, and he represented his township on the county board of supervisors, and his district in the legislature. His religious connections were with the Centennial Methodist Church. Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R.,

held his membership and benefited through his interest in its affairs.

On June 14, 1865, Mr. Budlong was married to Miss Minnie G. Smith, born in Lorraine, Jefferson County, N. Y., a daughter of Philander and Adeline (Meacham) Smith, and granddaughter of Henry and Fannie (Wilson) Smith, the former born at Nelson, N. H., who moved to New York state in 1808, becoming one of the early settlers of Worth. Philander Smith was born at Worth, N. Y., while his wife was born at Pulaski, Oswego County, N. Y., April 20, 1812, and was a lineal descendant of Miles Standish. Four of Mrs. Budlong's ancestors served in the Revolutionary war. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Budlong, Simon Meacham, was born at Paulet, Vt., but moved to Pulaski, N. Y. Philander Smith was a potential philanthropist, but left his large fortune to be used as his wife designated, and she established schools and hospitals. These include the Philander Smith College for colored people at Little Rock, Ark.; the Philander Smith Hospital, now the Nanking Hospital, at Nanking, China, where there is also a school and home for girls; the Fowler University, much enlarged, is (1916) the Union Nanking University. The school for boys at Mussonrie, India, which she established, has been merged into a larger one at Naini Tal, India. The Tokio Biblical Institute of Japan is for the training of native ministers. The Gracie and Flora Halls, at Mutra, India, are chapel and school for girls. She was also largely interested in religious work in the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. Budlong became the parents of five children, as follows: Standish S., Winthrop M., Mary A., John W., and one who is deceased. The death of Mr. Budlong occurred in 1907, and in his passing Rockford lost one of its most worthy and representative citizens.

BUKER, John T. Undoubtedly to John T. Buker belongs the credit of having been connected with the business life of Rockford longer than any other man now living. When only twelve years old he began, in odd times, to study the watchmaking trade in his father's store, and with the exception of a period when as a member of Company A, One Hundred Forty Seventh Illinois Volunteers he participated in the regiment's campaign, ending at Dalton, Ga., he adhered closely to this line until 1902. Since then he has been engaged in conducting the steamer Illinois.

John T. Buker is of the oldest colonial stock on both sides, being a descendant of Edouard Buker, who came from England to Boston in 1634, and also from Captain Myles Standish, John Alden and Henry Sampson of the Mayflower, among many others of the pioneer settlers, all of English nativity.

Mr. Buker was born in Pekin, Ill., July 25, 1848, a son of Horace and Helen Mary (Crosby) Buker, natives of Maine and New York, respectively. Horace Buker taught in Athens College, Ohio, until 1845 when he established himself in the watchmaking and jewelry business at Pekin. In 1855 he moved to Rockford where a similar

business was founded and conducted for nearly fifty years. He died April 12, 1900, at the age of eighty-three years, leaving an enviable reputation for integrity and ability. He married Helen M. Crosby, who was a daughter of the Rev. Timothy Crosby, an early day Methodist divine in Tazewell County, and Mary Kinney, both of New England ancestry. She died in 1864 and was laid at rest in the family mausoleum in the West Side cemetery, built at her wish, and the first of the kind in Rockford. Aside from the son John T., two other children were born to this couple, Mary J., who married Alex McCoy, and died over forty years ago, and Ines S. Manson, who resides in Chicago.

John T. Bunker was educated in the public schools of Rockford and early entered upon a business career. In 1876 he became his father's partner in business and in 1887 he purchased his father's interest, conducting the business alone until 1902 when he sold to A. H. Bolender and retired from the retail field. In 1900 he associated himself with Amasa Hutchins, a former mayor of Rockford, and built the steamer Illinois. Upon the death of Mr. Hutchins in 1907 Mr. Bunker purchased his interest and has had full control of the steamer ever since, devoting his entire attention to its management.

On February 28, 1877, Mr. Bunker was married to Edna E. Skinner, daughter of Edward Hayes and Penelope Janette (Leddick) Skinner, also early residents of Rockford. Edward Hayes Skinner was a great-grandson of Major John Skinner of the Continental Army, and a descendant of Thomas Skinner who came to Malden, Mass., from England in 1653; also of Samuel Chapin, founder of Springfield, Mass.; Edmund Halley, the eminent astronomer; George Hayes, ancestor of Rutherford B. Hayes, and many other early New England settlers.

Mr. Skinner's extensive land holdings bordering West State street on the south, are now partly within the city limits. Horace and Miriam avenues were named by him for a grandson and a daughter. He was an authority on fruit culture and in demand as a lecturer on the subject.

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Bunker reside at 2016 Harlem boulevard, Rockford. They have one son, Horace Edward, and one grandson, John Horace, who was born in 1902. Horace E. Bunker has been managing editor of The Republic and associate editor of The Star, serving for ten years as dramatic editor also for one or the other paper, and is now devoting his attention to the short story field in which he has met with success.

Throughout a long and active career Mr. Bunker has devoted considerable time to promoting outdoor sports, and for many years a sporting goods department was a prominent feature of his store. When a schoolboy he organized the Pioneer baseball club, which was the first nine in which A. G. Spalding ever pitched. Throughout his youth he attained reputation as an athlete and gymnast and later in life became known as an expert shot-gun marksman three times winning trophies

emblematic of the championship of Illinois, and for over thirty years standing among the leading amateurs of the Middle West.

His mechanical training gave impetus to the inventive faculty and in this he was a worthy successor of his father, who devised many of the tools and appliances which are now a necessary part of every watchmaker's equipment. The safety pinion used on the Rockford watch is the invention of John T. Bunker, and he devised the first grass catcher for lawn mowers, besides many other novelties and improvements applying to the gun, bicycle and watch trade.

For nearly fifty years the name of Bunker was never absent from a business sign on West State street and the firm not only claimed patronage from Winnebago County but sold by catalogue to adjoining states. Mr. Bunker was the first jeweler to test eyes by trial lenses, and in keeping pace with the development of the bicycle industry he built up a repair department which was practically a manufacturing plant, including appliances for brazing, enameling and vulcanizing. As captain of the Illinois his acquaintance has extended until he is known to nearly every person in the county. Although approaching three score and ten years, Mr. Bunker is still young in mind and body and gives every indication of continuing indefinitely in the business life of the city. He gives his personal attention not only to his steamboat but to his other affairs as well and has no intention of laying down the burden for many years.

BUNT, Anson E., merchant policeman on East State street, Rockford, was born in Schoharie, N. Y., October 22, 1859, a son of George and Sarah (Nashold) Bunt. The father was born in the same place as his son, in 1826, and the mother was also a native of that county, in which they later married and became farming people. They continued in New York state until the spring of 1860, when removal was made to Rockford, Ill., and here the father followed the trade of a carpenter until his death, which occurred in 1890, when he was sixty-four years old. The mother survives and lives at South Bend, Ind., with her son, L. L. Bunt. Her parents came to Illinois in 1860, locating in Rockford, where they died, the father in 1878, and the mother in 1879. George Bunt was a Mason, fraternally, and a Republican in politics.

Anson E. Bunt spent his boyhood at Rockford, where he attended the public schools. His business life began with his acceptance of a position with the Wm. A. Knowlton Manufacturing Co., with which he remained until 1889, a period of ten years. He was then with the W. F. & J. Barnes Co., as foreman, for six years. In 1895 he went on the police force, and continued a member of the police department for seven years. Mr. Bunt then engaged with B. F. Barnes Co., as foreman of the shipping department, and continued with this company for four years, and then for eighteen months was with the L. A. Weyburn Co. For the last eight years



A. H. Snyder

he has been merchant policeman, as above mentioned, and is a very efficient man.

In December, 1880, Mr. Bunt was married to Miss Lizzie C. Carpenter, a daughter of Coles and Margaret (Suits) Carpenter of New York state. The Carpenters came to Rockford in 1853, where Mr. Carpenter embarked in a grocery business and continued in it until his death in 1876 at the age of fifty-three years. The mother survives and makes her home at Elgin, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Bunt have had two children, namely: Frank, who lives at Lancaster, Pa.; and Margaret, who is at home. Mr. Bunt belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a Republican in politics. His standing is very high among his associates and he deserves his popularity.

BURCH, John, who for many years was an important factor among the farmers of Winnebago County, becoming the owner of 558 acres of fine land, was born at London, Canada, August 3, 1823, a son of John and Lydia (Hogaboom) Burch, born at Woodstock, Vt., and in Saratoga County, N. Y., respectively. They came to Winnebago County, Ill., in 1839, from Port Stanley, to which place they had gone in 1834, and located at Westfield Corners.

John Burch lived at home until he attained his majority. He then started out for himself, engaging in farm pursuits on his own account and being industrious and provident soon was able to buy the farm in Winnebago Township, a part of which is still in the family. This he cleared of timber, and developed it into a very valuable property, on it later erecting new buildings, and making the improvements that demonstrated that he was a practical farmer and very sensible man. In 1909 he retired and moved to Rockford where he had bought a fine modern residence, and there died June 9, 1911. The homestead adjoining, contains 558 acres, all in one tract, and is the property of Mrs. Burch and the children.

On January 22, 1866, Mr. Burch was married to Sarah Martha John, born in Northumberland County, Pa., December 27, 1843, a daughter of Jehu and Patience (Housewart) John, natives of Pennsylvania, who had come to Winnebago Township in 1849. Both died on their farm. Their children were as follows: Lorenzo, Kimber, and Cephas, who are deceased; Edmond, who lives at Plankinton, So. Dak.; Mrs. Burch; Ann Eliza, who is Mrs. Sims Biglow, a widow of Erie County, N. Y.; and Berdelia. Mr. and Mrs. Burch became the parents of the following children: Georgia, born December 13, 1866, who lives with her mother; Judson, born October 19, 1869, who lives at Santiago, Cal., married Ann Coulter; Willard, born March 9, 1872, who lives at Rockford, Ill., married George Somers; Nellie, born February 18, 1876, who is Mrs. Dr. Clarence Wray, of Iowa Falls, Iowa, has one daughter; Miriam Jesse, born January 22, 1878, who lives at Pasadena, Cal.; Mildred, born May 27, 1879, who lives at Pasadena, Cal., married Thomas V. Maguire; and Preston, born April 19, 1874, died

May 17, 1907, married Maude Simpson, and they had two children, Ramond and Kenneth, who live in Pasadena, Cal. Mrs. Burch belongs to the Mendelssohn Club, and Miss Georgia to the Woman's Club of Rockford.

BURDEN, W. M. Successful as an agriculturalist and respected as a citizen, W. M. Burden is one of the best types of prosperous Illinois farmers Winnebago County possesses, and his fine rural property in Harlem Township bears testimony to his industry and good judgment. He was born in Canada, in 1865, a son of John and Elizabeth (Hawkey) Burden. John Burden was born in Devonshire, England, but came with his parents to Bomanville, Canada, in 1819, and there father and son engaged in a nursery business, later becoming interested in a logging business at Quebec, Canada. Still later they developed a sawmill business, and John Burden became an expert lumberman, following this line in its several branches for seven years. During this period he married in Canada, afterward moving to Roscoe, Ill., locating here in 1868. He bought two lots and a comfortable residence, and lived in the village for nearly all his subsequent life, although he spent some time upon different occasions at the home of his son, W. M. Burden, his death occurring while there, January 24, 1909, aged ninety years. His wife died at the age of seventy years, in 1906. Both the paternal and maternal grandparents died in Canada. John Burden took pride in the fact that he was an expert with the scythe and cradle when these primitive implements were used in agricultural work. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and in political views upheld the principles of the Republican party.

W. M. Burden grew to manhood in Roscoe, Ill., and there attended the public schools. When still a child of eight years he began making himself useful, once driving a reaper for Thomas Ralston on the west Lane Road at Argyle, and he also worked for Fred Warner on his farm for ten years, and was with George Haskell of Rockford in a partnership for the purpose of raising seeds. Later Mr. Burden started farming for himself, renting the old Warner farm of 120 acres, which he conducted for eight years. He then rented the Hill farm in Harlem Township for one year, and for the following eight years rented the John Ralston farm. He then bought 230 acres in the same township, and now carries on general farming and raises Poland-China hogs and Durham cattle. For fifteen years he sheared sheep. He has never failed to do willingly whatever lay to his hand, for he was obliged to earn for himself every cent he has possessed. He is an honest, reliable man, and has been very liberal to others less fortunate than himself, and with the family has been held in deep affection in Winnebago County. Mr. Burden is unmarried, his two sisters, Sarah and Laura Burden, living with him.

BURDICK, Ward P., M. D. The modern medical man cannot rest upon his ability or inclination nor upon the training he has obtained during his extended course of study, for new discoveries and methods of treatment make it necessary for him to continue his scientific reading along with his daily practice. Members of the younger generation of physicians and surgeons are proving their worth, and perhaps one of the best examples of this class offered by Rockford is Dr. Ward P. Burdick. He was born at Milton Junction, Wis., August 12, 1882, a son of Abel C. and Sarah A. (Blaisdell) Burdick, natives of Illinois and Wisconsin. The father was a carpenter, and is now deceased. The mother survives and lives with Dr. Burdick.

Ward P. Burdick was reared at Milton Junction, attending its grade and high schools, and won honors in the local and league contests of 1902. Desiring to travel, in 1902 Dr. Burdick left Milton Junction and secured appointment to the government hospital service. He was attached to the California coast hospitals a year, then was ordered to the Philippines, and nursed a number of wounded Russian soldiers during the Russo-Japanese war. In recognition of his services in this connection, the Russian government tendered him a handsome souvenir. Following this experience he spent two and one-half years in China and Japan.

On coming back to the United States Dr. Burdick located at Rockford, and in 1907, having determined upon a medical career, he entered Loyola University, Chicago, and earned his way through a four-year course by lecturing for three years at the Illinois Post Graduate and Training School for nurses, and one year at Jefferson Park Hospital. He also spent eighteen months in the receiving ward of the Cook County Hospital. He then entered Bennett Medical College, Chicago, and was superintendent of clinics and assistant professor of pathology, and upon his graduation was valedictorian of his class, which numbered over 100. For a year after his graduation from the latter institution, Dr. Burdick practiced in Chicago, and was assistant surgeon in the ear, nose and throat work at the Jefferson Park Hospital, but in 1913 he returned to Rockford and since then has maintained a general practice in this city.

Dr. Burdick belongs to the Winnebago County Medical Society. He is a member of the Masonic order, the local order of Owls, being its physician and surgeon, and holds the same position for the Forest City Motorcycle Club, the Winnebago Outing Club, and the Fraternal Reserve Association.

BURNAP, Francis, page 656.

BURNS, Tobias, formerly one of the influential factors in the agricultural life of Winnebago County, but now deceased, was born in County Carlow, Ireland, October 13, 1834, a son of John and Julia (Schaughnessey) Burns. In 1849 Tobias Burns came to the United States. He

lived for five years in Vermont, where he worked at various callings, but after coming to Belvidere, Ill., he was engaged in farming. Later he moved to Cherry Valley Township, this county, where he farmed for many years. In 1862 he moved to Owen Township and spent four years, and then bought 240 acres of land in Burritt Township, and added to it until he owned 500 acres in this same county. He personally conducted it until March 13, 1902, when he turned his farm over to two of his sons, and removed to Rockford and lived in his beautiful home on Winnebago street until November 20, 1905, when he died.

On July 2, 1861, Mr. Burns was married, in East Rockford, to Mary Doyle, born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, October 13, 1843, a daughter of Timothy and Elizabeth (Ryan) Doyle, who came to New York state in 1849. For some years Mr. Doyle carried on stone mason work, until 1853, when he removed to Rockford, and here worked at gardening until his death.

Mr. and Mrs. Burns became the parents of the following children: John H., Mary, Charles, Timothy P., Elizabeth, Robert, James, William, Thomas, Thomas (2), Catherine and Mildred. John H., who resides with his family in Minneapolis, Minn., was married to Anna Richmond, and they have six children: Tobias, Gregory, Anne, Robert, Thomas and Julia. Mary became the wife of Thomas G. Doran, of Rockford, and they have had the following children: Miles, who married Margaret Cox, lives in New Milford Township; Maria, Annetta, Ramona, Andrew, William, Ruth, Catherine, Robert, Madeline and two who died in infancy. Charles, who lives in Burritt Township, married Catherine Rodgers, and they have the following children: Mary, Margaret, David, Catherine, Mildred, Charlotte, Harriet and Charles. Timothy P. is a resident of Burritt Township, married Margaret Shean, and they have the following children: William, Philip, Tobias, Clement, Allan, Timothy and Elizabeth. Elizabeth became the wife of W. J. Doran, of Rockford, and they have the following children: Loretta, Marian, Thomas, Clarence, Dorothy and Milo. Robert, a physician, resides at Freeport, Ill. He married Mary Cox and they have five children: Mary, Marjorie, Robert, Elizabeth and Edward. James Burns is a resident of Rockford. He married Elizabeth Bailey and they have the following children: John James, Margaret and William. William Burns died at the age of nineteen years and Thomas, the next in order of birth, at the age of two years. Thomas Burns (2) is a resident of Belvidere, Ill. Catherine became the wife of George Cannel, of Burritt Township, and they have the following children: John, William, Frederick, Mary Jane, Catherine and Woodrow. Mildred lives with her widowed mother in the old homestead at Rockford.

Mr. Burns was a consistent member of St. Mary's Catholic Church of Rockford. On the Democratic ticket he was elected in his township a road commissioner and a school director. In every relation of life he was a very highly

respected man. He started with nothing and not only reared honorably and comfortably a remarkable family, but became a wealthy man.

BURROUGHS, Niram C., one of the prosperous retired men of Rockford, who, after years of fruitful endeavor, can honorably enjoy leisure amid the comforts his own toil has provided, was born in Erie County, Pa., August 21, 1839, a son of Charles C. and Sally Sophia (Phelps) Burroughs, he of New York and she of Pennsylvania. In 1844 they came as far west as Marengo, and in 1847 moved to Lindenwood, Ill., and later, in 1864, moved to Rockford. At the time of his death, the father was a retired farmer. His children were as follows: Niram C.; Hiram, Polly and Phoebe, who are all deceased; Myram, who lives at No. 208 S. West street, Rockford; Emma, who is deceased; Anna, who is Mrs. M. R. PenDell of Rockford; Chandler, who lives at Vera Cruz, Mexico; Cory, who is deceased; Clara, who is Mrs. Charles Miner of Rockford; and Eva, who died in infancy.

On September 14, 1862, Mr. Burroughs enlisted in Company G, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for service during the Civil war, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, being in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia, and participating in the battles of Stone River, Perryville, Chickamauga and Dauville. At the latter place, while on picket duty, he fell over a ledge, in the dark, and broke his hip and sustained other injuries. After he returned to the service, he was placed on hospital duty. In June, 1865, he was honorably discharged, at Chicago, and then returned to his father's farm in Ogle County. There he spent three years, and then bought 160 acres in that county, and operated it for six years. He then rented his farm and moved to Rockford and went into a fruit and confectionery business which he conducted for six years. Selling it, he went into an undertaking business on the east side, but a year later sold and went into the same line of business on the west side, and operated it for twenty-two years. After selling he retired, and has not engaged in further business activities, living in his beautiful modern residence at No. 1606 Harlam boulevard.

In September, 1865, Mr. Burroughs was married to Algeline Campbell, born at Lindenwood, Ogle County, Ill., in 1839, being the first white child born in that neighborhood. Mr. and Mrs. Burroughs had one child, Levina, who is Mrs. W. W. Sawyer of No. 806 N. Main street. Mrs. Burroughs died May 29, 1914, and is buried in Rockford cemetery. On August 18, 1915, Mr. Burroughs was married in Rockford, to Aramintie (Claywell) Stevens, who was born in Springfield, Ill., September 27, 1854. Mr. Burroughs is a Republican. Fraternally he belongs to the Masons and Odd Fellows. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., holds his membership, and he enjoys his reunions with his old comrades.

BURROWS, William H., one of the leading florists of Rockford and a man whose knowledge

and experience fit him for a proper conduct of this line of business, was born in Cornwall, England, November 29, 1856, a son of John and Mary (Lamerton) Burrows who died in England.

William H. Burrows spent his boyhood in England where he was educated. In 1881 he came to the United States, locating at Rockford, and here he worked for J. G. Chick as a miller, that being the business he had learned in his native land. He also was employed by C. B. Sturdevant. In 1883 he returned to England and continued to work there as a miller until 1891, when he once more came to Rockford and resumed his connection with the Chick Milling Company. After four years he embarked in dairying and farming, buying a farm near Argyle, Ill., and he continued in this line until 1905, when he bought twelve acres of land at No. 2000 S. Main street, Rockford. This place had a few greenhouses on it, which he has remodeled, and he has added to them, until he has now one of the largest greenhouse plants of the city, there being 25,000 square feet of glass. In 1906 he opened a sand and gravel pit and continued to operate it until 1912, when he sold his rights to August Johnson, and now devotes all his time to his florist business, being a leader in his line here.

In May, 1887, Mr. Burrows was married at Falmouth, England, to Harriet Ann Thomas, born at that place. She is a daughter of Peter and Harriet (Brewer) Thomas, the latter of whom is deceased, but the former is living and resides in England. Mr. and Mrs. Burrows have the following children: Amy, who is at home, is a member of the International Bible Students Society; May, who died at the age of seven years; Edwin, who died in infancy; and Louise, William George, Martin, Nellie and Winston E., all of whom are at home. Mr. Burrows belongs to the First Congregational Church of Rockford. He is a Mason, belonging to the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, Shrine and Consistory, and he is also a member of the Sons of St. George.

BUSKE, Albert E., chief engineer for the Burson Knitting Company of Rockford, with residence at No. 228 Oakwood avenue, was born at Rockford, December 14, 1879, a son of Albert and Bertha (Baller) Buske, natives of Germany.

Mr. Buske began his career as an employe of the Rockford General Electric Company, and remained with this concern for five years, beginning July 8, 1896, as a utility man, and leaving January 10, 1901, as an engineer. He then entered the employ of the Emerson Manufacturing Company, but left December 22, 1902, to engage with the Burson Knitting Company as chief engineer, a position he holds at the present time. Mr. Buske is unmarried and lives with his mother. Fraternally he is a Mason.

BUTLER, Thomas M., M. D., who for many years was one of the able and beloved physicians of Winnebago County, and long one of its efficient officials, was well known to Rockford people. He was born in Lycoming County, Pa.,

June 21, 1833, a son of Thomas and Hannah (Farr) Butler, the former of whom was born in Ireland in 1787, and the latter in Pennsylvania in 1802. During the War of 1812 the father served his country as a soldier, and for his services was granted 1,000 acres of land in Lycoming County, Pa. In 1854 he sold this land and came to Winnebago County, Ill., where he bought a farm just north of Rockford, on which he died in 1851. The mother died in 1891, aged eighty-nine years. They are buried in the East Side Cemetery at Rockford.

Thomas M. Butler attended the Bloomsburg Medical College and the Lewisburg University, and was graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College in 1857, and on coming to Rockford entered upon a general practice. A few years later he moved to Waterloo, Iowa, and there practiced until 1861, when he returned to Illinois, locating at Pecatonica, and continued in practice until 1876. At that time he was elected circuit clerk of Winnebago County and moved to Rockford, serving as circuit clerk until 1888. He then went to Milwaukee, Wis., where he practiced for two years, from there to Detroit, Mich., and continued in practice in that city until 1893. In that year he returned to Rockford, and kept up his practice until he became an invalid. His death occurred November 28, 1912.

On September 1, 1864, Dr. Butler was married to Adalalde Prouty, born at Brooklyn, N. Y., November 14, 1841, a daughter of William C. and Adaline (Wheelock) Prouty, born in Vermont in 1810 and 1812, respectively. They were married there June 21, 1833. The grandparents were Elisha Prouty, who was born at Brattleboro, Vt., in 1772, died in 1852; and Elizabeth (Plummer) Prouty, who was born in Vermont in 1791, and died in 1851. In 1865 Mr. Prouty, father of Mrs. Butler, came to Rockford and bought a dry goods stock and conducted a store for several years, and then sold that and went into a shoe business. He was also engaged in business at Byron and Pecatonica, Ill., and additionally conducted a farm. His death occurred in 1878. The mother of Mrs. Butler died December 8, 1894. The sons of Mr. Prouty continued his mercantile operations for many years after their father's death. Frederick C. Prouty is the only son left in the Prouty family.

Dr. and Mrs. Butler had two children, namely: Annie C., who was born May 7, 1866, who resides with her mother; and William H., who was born October 13, 1867, died November 28, 1894. He married Mary A. Baker and they had one son, Norman H., who married Emma J. Canfield December 15, 1915. Norman H. Butler is now a petty officer in the United States navy. William H. Butler served for many years as deputy circuit clerk and at the time of his death was with Holland Ferguson in his abstract office.

Dr. Thomas M. Butler belonged to Pecatonica Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and was past eminent commander of Crusader Commandery, K. T., of Rockford. In politics he was a Republican. Mrs. Butler is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and is an associate

member of the Mendelssohn Club, and her daughter is a member of the chorus of that club. Miss Butler is also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and is recorder of that order and belongs to the State Historical Society. The family is one of the most prominent in Winnebago County.

BUTLER, William H. Winnebago County has been fortunate among other things, in having had as a rule, reliable and responsible men in its public offices, ever since its organization, and to this fact is due in large measure the high standing it enjoys among its sister counties. One of the men who lived up to the standard set by his predecessors was the late William H. Butler, of Rockford. Mr. Butler was born at Pecatonica, Ill., October 13, 1867, a son of Thomas M. and Adelaide (Prouty) Butler, who came here with their parents from Vermont, as pioneers of Winnebago County.

Until he married, William H. Butler resided at home. He had been given excellent educational opportunities, as he not only attended the grammar and high schools of Rockford, but also the Rockford Business College. In politics he was a Republican. In 1890 Mr. Butler was made deputy circuit clerk and held that office for a number of years, leaving to become manager of the abstract and real estate business of Holland, Ferguson & Company, of Rockford, and was discharging the duties of that responsible position at the time of his death November 28, 1893.

On April 9, 1890, Mr. Butler was united in marriage with Mary Buker, born at Monroe, Wis., in July, 1869, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Butiger) Buker, both natives of Switzerland who came with their parents to the United States, and were married in New York state. Mr. Buker was a farmer, and about 1875 he moved to Illinois where he continued to be interested in agricultural matters until his death in 1897, survived by his widow until May, 1912. Mrs. Butler was educated in the public schools of the country district in which she was reared. She and her husband had one son, Norman H., who is of the United States navy. Since the death of Mr. Butler, Mrs. Butler has resided at No. 3015 West State street, Rockford.

BUTTERWORTH, Thomas, page 709.

CABLE, Amos F., now deceased, was for many years one of the leading agriculturalists of Winnebago County. He was born at Sherman, Conn., in 1837, on the farm of his parents, Ezra and Pauline (Fenn) Cable, both of whom were born in Connecticut, where they were educated and married. After the birth of their son Amos F., they went to Ohio and stopped in that state for a short period. Leaving Ohio they drove overland, with oxen, to Rockford, but after a short stay in the city, found land in the county to suit them and bought near Pecatonica, Ill., improved their property and lived upon it until death claimed them.



Edward Lobner & Wife

Amos F. Cable was brought up on a farm and given such educational advantages as were offered by the common schools in his day. His life work was farming, and as his efforts were directed by good judgment he prospered. In 1861 he suffered from an accident through his team of horses becoming unmanageable, and received injuries from which he never recovered, dying shortly thereafter.

In 1860 Mr. Cable was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Marsh, a daughter of Horace and Fanny (Sherman) Marsh, both of whom were born in New Milford, Conn. Horace Marsh was born in 1795. In 1856 he came west and, locating in Rockford, bought the residence now occupied by Mrs. Cable. He returned to New York for his family and brought them to Rockford, and here he engaged in manufacturing furniture. He died in 1877, aged eighty-two years. Mrs. Marsh survived and died in 1895, aged ninety-two years. Horace Marsh and wife had the following children: Sarah, who died in Connecticut; Charles, who died at Rockford in 1896; Henry, now deceased, who resided at Daubury, Conn.; J. B., who died at Rockford, in 1911; George L., who died in 1911, was a resident of Rockford; Harriet Marsh, who was also a resident of Rockford, died in 1911; and Mrs. Cable.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Cable returned to Rockford to her parents, and has continued to reside on East State street, being one of the highly esteemed ladies of this city. She is a member of the First Congregational Church and is always among the first to help those in need or in trouble. Her father was one of the pioneers of this county.

CAMPFIELD, George K., who, during later life, was one of the honored residents of Rockford, prior to locating in that city, attained considerable prominence as an agriculturist. He was born in New Milford Township, this county, a son of William O. and Henrietta S. Campfield. He was reared in New Milford Township where he attended the public schools, and resided on the farm with his parents until his marriage in 1873. He then moved to Fayette County, Iowa, where he bought a farm and conducted it for six years, then sold it and bought another farm in New Milford Township, this county, near the homestead of his father. After conducting it for nine years he sold and moved to Rockford, which continued to be his home until his death in 1909.

On December 24, 1873, Mr. Campfield was married to Mary I. Rowley, born at Riga, Monroe County, N. Y., a daughter of Aaron and Mary (Stuart) Rowley, natives of Cayuga County, and Hudson River, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Campfield had the following children: Henrietta, who married Grant Hoyt, of Davenport, Iowa, has two children, Henrietta and Harry G.; Mabel P., Clifford and Harry, all of whom reside with their mother; Neva S., who married Raymond Reed, of Rockford, has one son, Burnett; and Hazel K., who lives with her mother.

Mrs. Campbell was a housekeeper for some years and also worked in Burson's Kuitting Works for several years. She attended the public schools of Brooklyn, N. Y., and is a very efficient woman. For some time she has been a member of the order of the Court of Honor. The family is well and favorably known in Winnebago County.

CARLSON, Axel, whose grocery at No. 1102 Seventh street, Rockford, is one of the best of its kind on this thoroughfare, is one of the typical Swedish-Americans of this city, and is held in the highest esteem by all who know him. He was born at Westergotland, Sweden, June 18, 1865, a son of Carl and Auna (Svenson) Andersou. Carl Anderson was born in Westergotland, as was his wife, and they were there married and lived until 1891, when they came to the United States, locating at Rockford, where Mr. Anderson was employed by the Rockford Desk Company for a number of years. Later he took charge of the teaming for the Rockford Frame & Fixture Company, and while engaged in the discharge of his duties, was accidentally run over by an Illinois Central railroad train. He was a Republican. His religious connections were with the Zion Lutheran Church, and he lived up to his faith in his everyday life.

Axel Carlson was reared in Sweden, and there educated, remaining in his native land until twenty years of age. In 1886 he came to the United States, and located at Rockford. Although a young man when he left Sweden, he had held the important office of deputy sheriff there and was regarded as very reliable. He easily found employment as a bricklayer upon coming to Rockford, and so continued for six years. He then went with the Phoenix Furniture Company, but when its plant burned in 1891, he formed a partnership with William Anderson and Oscar Carlson and established a grocery business on Fourteenth avenue. After two years, Mr. Carlson spent a year with the late C. Dahlgren, and in 1893 was made manager of the Star Grocery Company, with which he continued for nine years. At the expiration of this period he went into business for himself at Fifth avenue and Seventh street, and conducted his store there for eight years, and then moved to his present location, having here a double store building, of which he occupies one store and rents out the other. His trade is a heavy one and his customers have implicit confidence in him. In politics he is a Republican. He belongs to Zion Lutheran Church, and is one of its trustees.

In 1915 Mr. Carlson was married to Miss Selma Anderson, a daughter of Johannas and Catherine Anderson of Wasco, Ill., farming people, and prominent in their locality.

CARLSON, Charles, foreman of the art glass department of the National Mirror Works, of Rockford, with residence at No. 1616 Fourteenth avenue, is a man who has been placed in his present position because of his expertness and

efficiency. He was born in Sweden and was brought by his parents to the United States in 1890. After completing his school attendance, he began working for various manufacturers of Rockford, and among them was the Rockford Glass Bending Works with which concern he remained for five years, leaving to come with the National Mirror Company. With the exception of a period spent at Dubuque, Iowa, and St. Louis, Mo., Mr. Carlson has continued with this concern ever since, or for about ten years. He is justly regarded as a very capable and valuable man.

Mr. Carlson was married to Lina Meyer, and they have two children, namely: Myrtle, who was born November 15, 1910; and Roy, who was born May 10, 1912. Mr. Carlson is very popular among his associates who recognize his worth as a man and as a citizen.

CARLSON, Charles H., foreman and designer for the Rockford Art Glass Works of Rockford, with residence at No. 907 South Third street, is one of the men whose artistic talent is being put to practical use. He was born at Rockford, January 3, 1886, and here educated. His first business experience was gained as a machine helper with the Forest City Furniture Company, and with several intervals was with this concern for three years. He then was employed by various plants until 1903, when he entered the employ of the Lindorff Art Glass Company, and there developed his artistic tendencies, becoming their designer in 1910. He was also designer for the Davenport, (Iowa) branch of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company, and was with the National Mirror Works of Rockford. On severing his connections with the latter concern, Mr. Carlson connected himself with his present company as a cutter, and was made foreman, and then designer, and no doubt is one of the most skilled men in his line in the city. Some of his beautiful designs ornament the leading churches and stores and office buildings in this and other cities, and his talents receive due appreciation from the public.

Mr. Carlson was married at Chicago, July 5, 1913, to Raynhild Hetin, born in Sweden, who lived at Rockford at the time of her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson have a son, Russell H., who was born June 13, 1914. Mr. Carlson belongs to the Columbian Knights. The First Lutheran Church of Rockford holds his membership. In politics he is independent.

CARLSON, David. The building operations in a city the size of Rockford are bound to be important and to engage the time and attention of some of the leading men. David Carlson of the firm of Carlson & Sons, located at No. 1209 Revell avenue, belongs to this class and has executed some very important contracts in this vicinity. He was born at Eastergotland, Sweden, December 15, 1857, a son of Carl and Annie Carlson. Carl Carlson was born in the same place as his son, and after serving his apprenticeship at the carpenter trade, became a promi-

nent contractor, and was engaged in this line all his mature years, never leaving Sweden, where he died. His wife also passed away in Sweden.

David Carlson was educated in his native place and there learned the same trade as his father. When he reached his majority, he sailed for the United States, arriving in 1880, and proceeding direct to Ishpeming, Mich., where he remained for a short time and then came to Rockford to engage with the Union Furniture Company as a cabinetmaker. At the expiration of three years, Mr. Carlson left this concern to embark in a contracting business, his first contract being the finishing of the inside of the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church. He built the first business block on the corner of Fifth avenue and Seventh street. The following are a few of the contracts carried out by him: the Skandia Hardware Company's building, the Music Hall building, Peterson's building, Charles Olander's building, Dahlstrom's building, Lundberg's building, all on Seventh street; the building at Fourth avenue and Seventh street; the Jackson public school; the Hess Bros. department store building on East State street, which is the largest department store at Rockford; the residences of Aubrey T. Barnes, Dr. Hatch, William Winter and B. B. Treat, all on National avenue; the first residence of George Atkinson on National avenue; and the residence of C. J. Lundberg on N. Second street. Mr. Carlson also built an elegant residence for himself at No. 1209 Revell avenue.

In 1887 Mr. Carlson was married to Miss Mary Benson, a daughter of John F. and Johanna Benson, who are natives of Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson became the parents of the following children: Elsie V., who married A. H. Anderson of Rockford, and they have one child, Virginia; Roland D., who married Laura Shatler of Clinton, Iowa, and they have one child, Louis V.; Bertha A., who is at home; and Judith M., who married Lawrence Cotton of Rockford. Roland D. is now in business with his father, having been taken into partnership three years ago. In politics Mr. Carlson is a Republican, but has not desired to enter public life. In addition to his residence, Mr. Carlson also owns three properties at Nos. 628, 622 and 618 S. Sixth street, and conducts a planing mill at No. 1028 First avenue, where he gets out considerable material used in his different buildings.

CARLSON, Swan A., formerly foreman of the trimming department of the Mechanics Furniture Company of Rockford, with residence at No. 1207 Sixth street, in his work and advancement gives one of the best examples of the thrifty, industrious and capable mechanics of this city, where his worth has been appreciated. He was born in Sweden, September 6, 1870. He attended school in his native land, and for a time was engaged in farming and then became a coachman, and following that worked in a furniture factory. There he remained until 1888 when he came to the United States and

after coming to Winnebago County, went on a farm where he remained four years. He then went to Mason City, Iowa, where he conducted a livery business for nearly two years, and after selling it, came to Rockford and bought a barber shop. After six months in this business he again sold and invested in stock in the Meehanics Furniture Company. Coincident with his purchase of stock, he began working for the company, and was made foreman of the trimming department in 1897.

On July 2, 1896, Mr. Carlson was married at Rockford to Gundheld Peterson, and they have the following children: Norman L., Stanley M. and Helen, all of whom are at home. Mr. Carlson belongs to the Salem Lutheran Church. In politics he is independent. He owns city property.

CARRICO, Thomas Wallace, founder of the Carrico Stone Company, of which his widow is now president, was one of the substantial and reliable business men of Rockford. Dying, he left behind him a fine business and an honorable name. He was born at Beverly, Mass., June 9, 1830, a son of Thomas and Mary (Raymond) Carrico, both natives of Beverly, Mass., where they were married. For some years thereafter, the father was a shoe merchant, but subsequently came west, and located at Logan, Iowa, where he retired from active business, and died in 1879, aged eighty years.

Thomas Wallace Carrico was only a small boy when his father moved to Iowa, and he grew up in that state, completing his education in New York state. He accompanied his aunt, Mrs. W. F. Parrish, to Rockford in 1854 and opened a stone quarry at Rockton, Ill., operating it for three years, when he sold and came to Rockford. He rented a farm and conducted it for a year and a half, later assuming charge of a stone quarry on Avon street, West Rockford, which had been owned by his father-in-law, at that time belonging to Mrs. Carrico. After some years association with this quarry, he opened another quarry on a farm on Kilburn avenue, and conducted it until his death, his widow succeeding to its presidency, and his son to its management. Mr. Carrico died September 22, 1908, aged seventy-eight years. He was a Mason in high standing, a Republican in politics, and a consistent member of the Christian Union Church. The family residence at No. 919 Garfield avenue, was built by Mrs. Carrico, and she continues to live there.

In 1857 Mr. Carrico was married to Mary L. Kilburn, a daughter of Benjamin and Eleanor (Maynard) Kilburn, natives of Belchertown and Shrewsbury, Mass., who were married in the latter place, and came west in 1836, locating at Rockford, Ill. They bought 160 acres of land, which they farmed, but later platted it and sold all but the stone quarry, and this is now a part of Rockford. The stone quarry is known as the Carrico Stone Quarry. Mr. Kilburn's death occurred in 1861, when he was fifty-two years old. Mrs. Kilburn survived, dying in 1889,

aged eighty-eight years. In politics the father of Mrs. Carrico was a Republican, while in religious faith he belonged to the Congregational Church of which he and wife were charter members. Mr. and Mrs. Carrico had one son, Fred K., who married Miss Mabelle Miller, a daughter of W. H. Miller. Mr. and Mrs. Fred K. Carrico live at 731 Ashland avenue, Rockford, and they have two children, William and Elizabeth.

CARY, Charles M., telegraph operator, freight and ticket agent of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, and also agent of the American Express Company at Winnebago, is one of the substantial men of this county. He was born in what is now Campbellsport, Fond du Lac County, Wis., August 25, 1864, a son of John and Mary E. (Danforth) Cary, natives of Pennsylvania, and pioneers of Wisconsin, and later of Louisiana and Missouri. They had two children, namely: Frank and Charles M. Frank Cary was a well known railroad man. His first connection was with the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, at Baraboo, Wis., as train dispatcher, and later became a trainmaster at St. Paul for the Wisconsin Central Railroad. From there he went to Little Rock, Ark., as train dispatcher for the Iron Mountain & Southern Railroad, and soon thereafter was promoted to the position of superintendent of the same road, with headquarters at Wynne, Ark., and while engaged in picking up a wreck in that vicinity he was accidentally killed, in September, 1905.

Charles M. Cary was about ten years old when he returned with his mother and brother to Campbellsport, Wis., making the trip by boat from Louisiana to Clinton, Iowa, and the rest of the way going by rail to their former home. Afterward the mother married (second) Jay Matteson and they had two children: Maude and Guy, both of whom reside at Los Angeles, Cal., where the mother died in 1910. Maude is the wife of Guy Whiting.

Charles M. Cary was practically reared in Fond du Lac County, Wis., and received his education in the public schools. At the age of fifteen years he began work as a farm hand with the ambition to earn money to enable him to take up the study of telegraphy, which he began at the age of eighteen years. By close application he mastered the profession, and when only nineteen years old commanded a salary of \$50 per month. He was employed by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, first as an extra telegrapher, but later was made night man at Rockford, working in that capacity seven years, when he was assigned to day service, and general office work, including ticket selling, continuing until June 14, 1893, when he was appointed to his present position which he has held continuously since with credit to himself and to the benefit of his road, as well as to the general satisfaction of the traveling public. He is recognized as the most popular and efficient agent on the Galena division.

On July 30, 1890, Mr. Cary was married to Mary Elizabeth Hall, a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Hargraves) Hall, both natives of England and early settlers of Rockford, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Cary are members of the Presbyterian church. He belongs to Winnebago Lodge No. 745, A. F. & A. M., of which he has been secretary since 1910. He is also a member of the Eastern Star and Oriental Shrine No. 5 of Rockford, and White Oak Camp No. 59, M. W. of A. In politics he is a Republican, and he is looked upon as one of Winnebago's most progressive and enterprising citizens. Mr. Cary owns a very comfortable residence in Winnebago.

CARY, Ezra O., chief bookkeeper and office manager of the Rockford Watch Company, Lt., with residence at No. 1031 N. Winnebago street, is a man of force of character, possessed of executive ability, and has natural aptitude for his work. He was born at Milwaukee, Wis., April 22, 1886. His family moving to Elgin, Ill., he attended the grammar and high schools of that city, and was graduated from the latter in 1904. Following his graduation, Mr. Cary began working for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, as clerk in the freight office, and later his capacity was recognized by his being made chief clerk in the roadmaster's office, and assistant clerk in the superintendent's office. In 1911 he left that road to become bookkeeper for the Aurora, Elgin & Chicago Railroad, at Elgin, where he remained for a year, and in 1912 he became bookkeeper for the Rockford Watch Company, Lt., and moved to Rockford.

In 1908 Mr. Cary was married to Ella B. Stedman, and they became the parents of the following children: Bradford, Mary E., and Owen D., who died at the age of one year and one month. Mr. Cary belongs to Elgin Lodge, No. 522, A. F. & A. M., and the Loyal L. Munn Chapter No. 96, R. A. M. In politics he is a Republican. The Third Presbyterian Church holds his membership. Live, alert and thoroughly competent, Mr. Cary is able to bring his wide and long experience to bear upon his work and get excellent results that reflect credit upon his efficiency and good judgment.

CASH, Charles L., manager of the F. Becker Ready Roofing Company, is one of the progressive business men of Rockford. He was born near Shawneetown, Ill., August 23, 1872, a son of William T. and Alice N. (Malcolm) Cash. The paternal grandfather was born in Virginia and was a preacher and farmer who came to Southern Illinois and died at a point near Shawneetown. The maternal grandfather was born in Kentucky. He was in a charcoal business, all his mature years. During the Civil war he espoused the northern side, and fought in the Union army. His death occurred in Kentucky.

William T. Cash was born near Louisville, Ky., in 1852, and there educated, and later be-

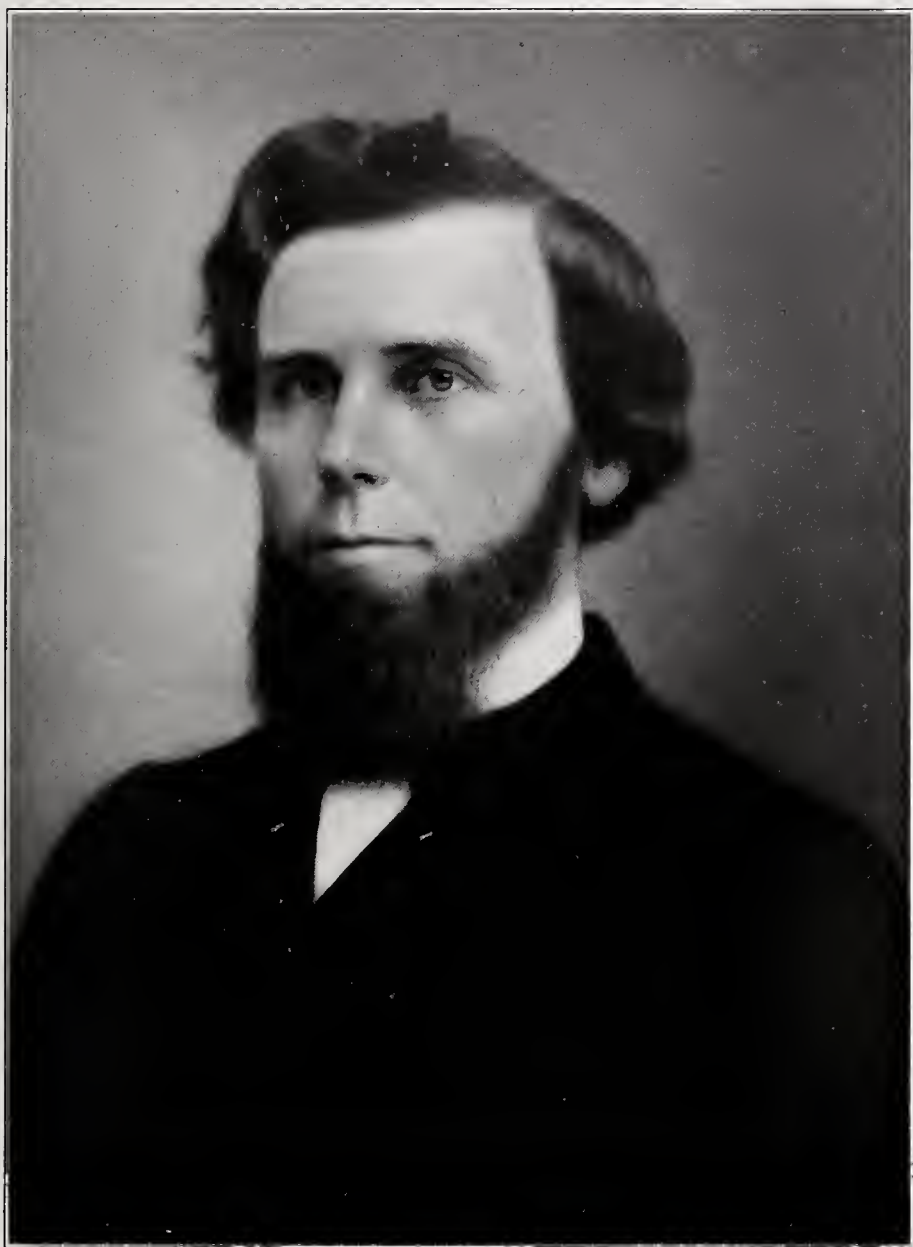
came a cabinetmaker and manufacturer of burial caskets. In 1879 he was married and then went to Dixon, Ill., where he followed his trade for a short time and subsequently developed into one of the successful contractors of Dixon. He has erected a number of fine residences and business houses in that section. In politics he is a Republican, while in religious matters he is a Baptist. Mrs. W. T. Cash died in November, 1908, aged fifty-four years, at Dixon, Ill.

Charles L. Cash passed his childhood in his native place and his school period at Dixon, Ill. His first employment was as a school-teacher, in Lee County, Ill. Later he went to Cedar Falls, Iowa, where he attended the Iowa State Normal School, from which he was graduated. After returning home he then entered into the contracting business with his father and two brothers, Samuel and Ray, and was so associated for fifteen years, when he connected himself with the Ready Roofing Company, and was first stationed at Albert Lea and Austin, Minn. In 1912 he was transferred to Rockford, where he purchased the branch office and equipment of the F. Becker Ready Roofing Company and is still conducting it, enjoying a large trade, his place of business being at No. 107 E. State street.

In 1894 Mr. Cash was married at Dixon, Ill., to Miss Emma Blackburn, a daughter of Joseph and Harriet (Frazier) Blackburn, and they have one child, Donald L., who is assistant teller of the Winnebago National Bank. Mr. Cash is a Republican. Like his father he is a consistent member of the Baptist church.

CASSIDY, Benjamin B., is worthy of mention in a history of the representative men of Winnebago County, not only because of his honorable business career but also on account of the services he rendered during the Civil war when he fought for the Union cause. He was born in Rhode Island in 1840, a son of Philip and Rose (Smith) Cassidy. Philip Cassidy was born in Rhode Island, and there resided until 1850 when he moved to PoySippi, Waushara County, Wis., and there entered 360 acres of government land which was in timber. This he improved and operated until his death which occurred in 1890. His widow survived him until 1900, dying at the age of eighty years. Philip Cassidy was a Democrat in politics, and in religious faith was a Catholic.

Benjamin B. Cassidy was reared in Wisconsin, living in the primitive log cabin erected by his father on the new farm until he was seventeen years old. At the age of nineteen he came to New Milford Township, Winnebago County, Ill., and for four years was engaged in farming, then moved to Rockford, and accepted a position with the Bartlett Milling Company, with which he remained for twelve years, when, on account of failing health he retired and so lived at his home on South First street, Rockford, until his death in 1875. In March, 1864, Mr. Cassidy enlisted at Dixon, Ill., in Company D, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for serv-



C. H. Spafford

ice in the Civil war, and after serving for one year was honorably discharged, and then returned home.

In 1862 Benjamin B. Cassidy was married to Elizabeth Payne, a daughter of Benjamin and Ann (Bray) Payne, of Rockford, and they became the parents of four children, as follows: Rose A., who is principal of the Turner High school of Rockford; Addie B., who is Mrs. Frank Jiles of Evanston, Wyo.; Lucy, who is Mrs. E. E. Allen, residing at No. 139 East street, Rockford; and George H., who lives at Canton, Ohio.

Benjamin Payne, father of Mrs. Cassidy, was born at Crockerton, Wiltshire County, England, June 12, 1812. His wife was also a native of England, her parents being very wealthy landowners who never left that country. During long lines they were prominent members of the Church of England. Benjamin Payne was educated in England. In 1840 he sailed for the United States with his family, accompanied also by two sisters, Mrs. Curley and her three children, and Sarah Payne, and they made the trip from Buffalo, N. Y., by water to Chicago, and thence by wagon to Rockford, Ill., where Mr. Payne was a carpenter for some years, and then became sexton of the Cedar Bluff Cemetery of Rockford. Later he retired and lived at his home on South First street, Rockford, where he died at the age of forty-three years, in 1855. He was a Republican in politics and was a member of the Church of England. Benjamin Payne and wife had the following children: Richard, who died at the age of three months at Rockford, Ill.; Elizabeth H., who is Mrs. Cassidy; Lucy, who married B. H. Miller and is living at Hazelton, Iowa; William, who is living at Shannon, Ill., and Charles, who died at the age of six years, at Rockford, Ill.

CATLIN, A. M., page 652.

CATLIN, Edward Pratt, M. D. The representatives of the medical profession of Winnebago County have largely been, since the beginning of its history, men of unusual ability and their services to the afflicted have been earnestly rendered. One of these physicians, who is remembered with gratitude and affection by those to whom he ministered, was the late Dr. Edward Pratt Catlin, of Rockford. Dr. Catlin was born at Chester, Ohio, July 1, 1837, a son of Archibald and Marietta (Harwood) Catlin, natives of Connecticut. They came to Winnebago County in a covered wagon in the fall of 1837, and built a log cabin on land that is now included in Sinnissippi Park. Archibald Catlin owned all of the land comprised in this park as well as many additional acres. By profession he was a physician, and the first of his calling to locate in the county. His death occurred when he was ninety-two years old.

Edward Pratt Catlin studied medicine at Rush Medical College, Chicago, and also at Bellevue Hospital, New York City. At the outbreak of the Civil war, he enlisted in the One Hundred and

Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry as surgeon and served until 1865, when he returned to Rockford and there continued in active practice until his death, September 26, 1904.

On December 31, 1866, Dr. Catlin was married to Mary H. Robinson, who was born at Huron, Ohio, August 18, 1840, a daughter of Sylvester S. and Emily (Skinner) Robinson, natives of Glastonbury, Conn., and Prattsburg, N. Y., respectively. In the spring of 1847, the Robinsons came to Rockford, Ill., and Mr. Robinson was employed for two years as a clerk. In 1849 he went overland to California, the trip consuming three months, and died in the fall of that same year. Dr. and Mrs. Catlin became the parents of the following children: Archibald M., who is a resident of Topeka, Kas.; Sanford Robinson, who is a physician of Rockford; and Norman E., who is in business in Rockford. Mrs. Catlin, who resides with her son, Norman E., was educated in the select school kept by Miss Sill, of Rockford. She is a member of the Woman's Club, and the Home for the Aged has long had her support, and is corresponding secretary of the same. She is a member of the Second Congregational Church of Rockford. For eighteen years Dr. Catlin served as pension examiner. He was a member of Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R. In politics he was nominally a Republican, but did not care for public life, and often cast his vote for the men he deemed best suited for the several offices, irrespective of party. He was valued as a physician, as a citizen and as a friend.

CHICK, Thomas, one of Rockford's best known business men, the genial owner and proprietor of the famous hostelry that bears his name, the Chick House, is a familiar character not only to the people of Rockford, but to the traveling public as well. His hotel is conveniently located at the corner of So. Main and Elm streets, in the very heart of Rockford's business district. He has occupied these premises since September, 1888, and to say that he has been successful, is but a mild form of expression, for his hotel is always filled with satisfied patrons, and its atmosphere is that of the busiest place in the city.

Thomas Chick was born in Devonshire, England, in 1846, a son of William and Hannah Chick, typical English people. He was educated in the public schools of his native land, although he left school at an early age to learn the wheelwright trade, and this he followed, and milling for a number of years. From the time he came to the United States, until the present day, Rockford has been his home nearly all of the time and he has its interests deeply at heart.

Although he had learned a trade, he did not follow it long, accepting work with the Northwestern Railroad system as locomotive engineer, holding that position for fifteen years. He then resigned to resume work at the milling trade, taking up the roller process system, which had come into use, and was so engaged until 1888, when he opened the Chick House, and the con-

duct of this hostelry has fully occupied his time ever since.

Mr. Chick was married to Lena Kennedy, also born in England, and she co-operates with her husband in making the Chick House one of the most homelike and desirable hotels in this part of the state. The Chick House is run on the American plan, and its furnishings are such as to attract attention, the lobby being the finest in the city. However, Mr. and Mrs. Chick endeavor to make their guests comfortable above everything else, and succeed in doing this to a remarkable degree. For twenty-five years Mr. Chick has been a member of the order of Elks, and he is a thirty-second degree Mason. A brother of Mrs. Chick, James Kennedy, upon coming to the United States, identified himself with his adopted country, and when it had need of him, he enlisted in its defense during the Civil war, and laid down his life for it at the siege of Vicksburg, when he was killed by a bullet from the gun of an enemy.

CHRISTENSON, Wilbur. Very often business men combine undertaking with the handling of furniture and the Rockford Home Furniture Company is no exception to this rule, Wilbur Christenson, one of the substantial stockholders of the above mentioned company not only being interested in the success of the company, but he is an expert embalmer and undertaker as well and has full charge of this branch of the business. He was born at Portland, Conn., January 17, 1885, a son of Nels and Elnora Christenson, the former of whom was born and married in Sweden, and in 1875 came to Portland, Conn., from his native land, there engaging in agricultural pursuits, and thus continuing for fifteen years. Then he became interested in a stone business at Jamestown, N. Y., and also in some worsted mills at that point, but after several years retired and he died October 14, 1914, aged eighty years, nine months and two days. His widow survives and lives with her son Wilbur. The father was a Republican, and a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church. During his life he was insured in the Swedish Mutual Life Insurance Company of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Wilbur Christenson was educated at Jamestown, N. Y., and there he began his business career, in the worsted mills, but left them after three years and came to Illinois and was with the Cable Piano Company at St. Charles for two and one-half years and learned the piano business. Leaving there he came to Rockford and was with the Haddorff Piano Company for four years, when he went to Chicago, and for one year and seven months was a salesman for the Killeen Piano Company on Milwaukee avenue. Following this he was on the road for the same firm, acting as its representative in the state of Nebraska. Returning to Chicago, he entered the Warsham College of Embalming, and was graduated in 1914, then took the state examination which he passed with high honors, and received a license to practice anywhere in the state. Mr. Christenson then accepted a posi-

tion with E. A. Arntzen, undertaker, at No. 810 No. Clark street, Chicago, but left him to return to Rockford, and on July 2, 1914, took charge of the undertaking branch of the Rockford Home Furniture Company.

Mr. Christenson belongs to the Foresters, at Chicago, the Svithiod Society of Rockford, and is insured with the Skandia Life Insurance Company. In politics he is a Republican. His religious connections are with Zion Lutheran Church. A young man of unusual ability, he is an expert in his line.

CHURCH, Charles A., was born in Chemung, McHenry County, Ill., July 21, 1857. He was the oldest of three sons born to Dr. Richard C. and Eliza A. Church, and a grandson of Dr. Charles Church, who settled in Guilford Township, Winnebago County, in 1844, and later removed to Belvidere. Mr. Church's father died when he was eight years of age. In 1873 he entered the office of the Belvidere Standard, and began to learn the printer's trade. In two years from that time he made regular contributions to the editorial as well as to the local department of the paper. He remained with the Standard until April 1, 1878, when he became city editor of the Rockford Journal, of which Hiram R. Enoch was proprietor.

Mr. Church remained at Rockford until the autumn of 1878, when he returned to Belvidere and purchased an interest in the Semi-Weekly Recorder, which he published with C. E. Kelsey until October, 1881, when he assumed entire management of the paper and made it a weekly. He continued its publication until 1883, when he sold the business and good will.

Mr. Church in 1883 again made his home in Rockford, where he has since continuously resided, and has, with a single exception, spent more years in the newspaper business than any other citizen of Rockford. In 1887 he became foreman and assistant editor of the Golden Censer, a position he retained until 1892. In that year he organized the Spectator Publishing Company, with the late A. E. Smith, United States consul at Victoria, and others. It was the highest grade literary paper ever published in Rockford, but it was continued in this form only one year. In 1897 the Calvert Brothers purchased the Golden Censer, and Mr. Church was chosen its editor. In 1898 he became editor and proprietor, and published the Censer until the subscription list was sold to a Chicago paper. Since 1901 Mr. Church has been on the staff of the Register-Gazette. In 1887 he was appointed evening assistant at the Rockford Public Library, and served in that capacity nearly nineteen years.

In January, 1894, Mr. Church was licensed to preach by the State Street Baptist Church. Since that time he has supplied nearly fifty churches in Northern Illinois. He spent portions of 1894 and 1895 in theological study at the University of Chicago. Among his instructors were: President W. R. Harper and Prof. Alexander B. Bruce, the famous Scotch author and

theologian. Mr. Church was graduated in the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle in 1889.

Mr. Church's "History of Rockford from 1834 to 1861" was published in 1900. It is used in all the public schools of Rockford, and is the recognized authority on local history. In 1902 he wrote the life of Gen. Allen C. Fuller, adjutant-general of Illinois during the Civil war, and delivered an address upon him before the Chicago Historical Society. In 1905 he edited "The Past and Present of the City of Rockford and Winnebago County." Mr. Church's next work was the "History of the Republican Party in Illinois from 1854 to 1912," published in the latter year. It has circulated in thirteen states and is in the largest public and university libraries in the country. Mr. Church has also edited several memorial pamphlets.

May 22, 1879, Mr. Church was united in marriage to Hattie M. Lake, daughter of Dr. L. L. Lake, one of the earliest practitioners in Belvidere and surgeon in the Civil war in the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry and in the Thirteenth Cavalry. Mr. and Mrs. Church have four children: Holland L., of the staff of the Freeport Bulletin; Lorena M. Church, A. M., instructor in English and registrar at Rockford College; Gertrude, now Mrs. Charles R. Stiles; and Ruth A., a teacher in the P. A. Peterson school. There are two grandchildren: Dorothy Ruth and Carolyn Gertrude Stiles. Mr. Church's mother died in February, 1914, in her ninetieth year. His only surviving brother, C. M. Church, is county treasurer of Boone County. Mr. Church and family are members of the Second Congregational Church. Mr. Church is a member of the Illinois State Historical Society.

CHURCH, Selden M., page 645.

CLARK, Elbert Judson, M. D., one of the most highly esteemed members of the medical profession in Winnebago County, resides at No. 119 Oakwood avenue, Rockford. He was born at Java, N. Y., September 6, 1847, a son of Roswell and Mary (Walton) Clark, natives of Putney, Vt., and Chester, Mass., respectively. In early life the father was a teacher, but later engaged in farming in New York state, having gone there in young manhood. In 1856 he came to Pecatonica, Ill., and bought a farm and a tavern known as the Grove House. There he died in June, 1884, aged seventy-six years. The mother died in 1903, aged eighty-six years. Their children were as follows: Elbert Judson; Hannah Amelia, who is deceased; James Austin, who died in infancy; Alonzo Walton, who served through the Civil war, reaching the rank of major, died in 1869; and Eliza Adell, who is deceased.

Until he was eighteen years old, Elbert J. Clark resided with his father, and in boyhood attended the local schools. In August, 1864, Dr. Clark enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and was on provost marshal duty throughout Illinois and

some of the southern states, receiving his honorable discharge at Cairo, Ill., from the hospital where he had been for six weeks on account of illness. A portion of the regiment formed an escort for the body of President Lincoln at his funeral.

After proper preparation Mr. Clark then entered the Northwestern University, Chicago, and was graduated from its medical department in 1871 and appointed assistant surgeon of the Marine Hospital at Chicago, holding that position a year when he resigned and entered the United States army and was assigned to duty on the Grand River Indian Reservation in Dakota. In 1872 he returned to Pecatonica, Ill., for his marriage, after which he was ordered to the Cheyenne Indian Reservation. There his young wife suffered greatly, for the Indians were still hostile, and their numerous depredations caused her many trying times. In 1876 Dr. Clark was detailed to report to General Custer for duty with the famous expedition of 1876. Fortunately for Dr. Clark, after several months acting in field service he was assigned to the field hospital and Dr. George Lord was sent in his place, for, as is well known, the command was wiped out in the terrible massacre. The following winter Dr. Clark was ordered back to the agency, and in the summer of 1877 he located at Northfield, Minn., where he practiced for three years, and then came to Winnebago, Ill., where he was in active practice until 1904, at which time he retired and moved to Rockford.

On December 25, 1872, Dr. Clark was married to Hattie M. Carpenter, born at St. Albans, Vt., a daughter of Augustus V. and Martha (Proctor) Carpenter, natives of St. Albans and Burlington, Vt. Dr. and Mrs. Clark became the parents of one daughter, Mary Florence, who was born September 15, 1878. She married Frederick D. Kellogg, who is with the Ohio Stone Company, of Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg have a daughter, Virginia, who was born April 18, 1907. Dr. Clark belongs to the First Presbyterian Church of Rockford. He has served on the town and school boards of Winnebago, and on the Republican county central committee. In politics he is a Republican. Fraternally he belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 166, A. F. & A. M. and to the Modern Woodmen of America. He is post surgeon of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford.

CLARK, George R., page 624.

CLARK, Lucius, page 663.

CLIKEMAN, Charles, now living retired at Rockford, was for a number of years a very successful agriculturalist. He was born in New York state, December 12, 1853, a son of Minor and Anna E. (Allen) Clikeman, also natives of New York state. The grandparents, Peter Clikeman and William and Eliza Allen, were also natives of New York.

In 1857 Minor Clikeman came to Rockford,

Ill., and remained one year, then returned to his old home in New York, remaining there until 1861. In that year he brought his family to Winnebago County, and began farming, a few years later purchasing 160 acres of land, to which he added 100 acres later on. This farm he greatly improved, erecting all the buildings, and making the other improvements. In 1901 he went to Lakefield, Jackson County, Minn., and bought 160 acres of raw prairie land, on which he put up buildings, and continued to improve it until 1909 when he rented the land to others and moved to Rockford from Owen Township. Later he sold both his Minnesota and his Winnebago farms and went to Haines City, Fla., where he bought a twenty-acre orange grove, and there spent his winters until his death, February 6, 1912. His wife died in 1907. Their children were as follows: Charles; Sidney, who lives at Rockford; Austin, who lives at Greene, Iowa; Verni A., unmarried, who lives with Charles at Rockford; William, who lives in Chicago; and Adella, who died at the age of fourteen years.

Charles Clikeman attended the public schools in his district, and Prof. Lounsbury's Academy. When he was twenty-three years old he went to Janesville, Wis., and learned telegraphy. He was first engaged by the Burlington & Missouri Railroad as night operator at Doniphan, Kas., but six months later transferred to Iowa Point, Kas., and in three months more to Highland, Kas., becoming station agent there as well as operator. After a year at that point, he returned home, and for two years was engaged in farming his father's property in Owen Township, this county. He then went to Hardy & Superior, Neb., where he became a telegraph operator. After six months, however, he once more returned home, and rented his father's farm and conducted it until 1904. In that year he bought the original farm of 260 acres. On July 22, 1906, the buildings were struck by lightning and burned, and the farm implements and tools were also destroyed, nothing being saved but the residence. Mr. Clikeman rebuilt and carried on general farming and dealt heavily in cattle and hogs until his retirement, when he rented his farm and moved to Rockford.

On May 16, 1883, Mr. Clikeman was married to Mary Cundiff, born in Pulaski County, Ky., a daughter of John and Polly Ann (Dutton) Cundiff. They were natives of Kentucky, but moved to Kansas in 1865, where both died and where Mrs. Clikeman was married near Highland. Mr. and Mrs. Clikeman became the parents of the following children: Roy, who lives in Owen Township, married Allie M. Dennis, and they have one son, Minor L.; Rex, who also lives in Owen Township, married Alta Usher, and they have one son, Charles; Ray, who lives on the home farm, married Charlotte Allen; and Stella, who is a public school teacher in Rockford Township. Mr. Clikeman is a Methodist in religious faith. In politics he is a Republican, and he served fifteen years as a school trustee, fourteen years

as town clerk, and for four years was supervisor, all of these offices being held in Owen Township. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and has been clerk of the local lodge since 1893. He also belongs to the Merchants & Manufacturers Club of Rockford, and is one of the leading men of his community.

COLBY, Nathan L., one of the founders of the Pecatonica News, was one of the most influential and well known men of the county. He was born at Beloit, Wis., December 20, 1854, a son of Nathan D. and Sybil W. (Pease) Colby, who came to Beloit, Wis., in 1847, from Maine, being among the earliest settlers of that place. Mrs. Colby died at Beloit, Wis., December 17, 1884, and Mr. Colby died seven years later, July 12, 1891, these pioneers being well known, for they were worthy people and of the type that makes many friends.

Nathan L. Colby learned the printer's trade in his youth in a printing establishment at Beloit, where he also secured an excellent education. In 1870 he went to Milwaukee, Wis., where he became a compositor on the Sentinel, but the following year moved to Davis, Ill., and with his brother, William A. Colby, established a paper of his own, moving his plant to Pecatonica in December, 1872, and changing its name to the present one. In 1880 he purchased his brother's interest and conducted the paper alone with marked success until the time of his death. Mr. Colby was a staunch Republican, and filled various offices of trust, serving for five years as township clerk, and he was also village treasurer, president of the village board, a member of the board of education and a justice of the peace. In September, 1898, he was appointed postmaster and was reappointed in 1902. For many years he was chief of the fire department, president of the electric light company, and was otherwise identified with the upbuilding of the community. In his social connections he was identified with A. W. Rawson Lodge No. 145, A. F. & A. M., at Pecatonica; Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T., and Tebala Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Rockford; the Freeport Consistory; Eureka Camp No. 50, M. W. A.; Monitor Garrison No. 19, at Pecatonica, and was at one time connected with the Odd Fellows. His sudden death occurred July 11, 1904. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ella M. Smith, was born in Ridott Township, Stephenson County, Ill., April 8, 1859, a daughter of Gilbert F. and Helen M. (Shaw) Smith. She was educated in the country schools and afterwards taught school for a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Colby were married at Freeport, September 15, 1880, and they had the following children: Gilbert F.; Claude A., who was born July 27, 1883; and Smith W., who was born May 15, 1887. Mrs. Colby was a true helpmate to her husband, and their united efforts resulted in the accumulation of a competency that left her well provided for when death removed her husband. She went to San Jose, Cal., in 1906, where she still resides.



Douglas W. Spence

Gilbert F. Colby, editor and publisher of *The Pecatonica News*, was born at Pecatonica, July 19, 1881, a son of Nathan L. and Ella M. (Smith) Colby. He received his educational training in the Pecatonica public schools from which he was graduated in 1897. He then entered upon the duties of assistant postmaster under his uncle at Union Grove, Wis., resigning to accept a similar position with his father. In 1901 he was appointed to a position in the railway mail service of the government, running first between Chicago and Dubuque, Iowa, and later from Chicago to Lake Geneva, Wis. At the Lake Geneva post-office, his terminal office, he became acquainted with Lena A. Voss, then a clerk in the office, and a daughter of Carl Voss, with whom he was united in marriage March 30, 1904. Mr. Colby resigned his railway position immediately following his marriage, and was with his father until the latter died, when the son assumed the management of the paper. Mr. and Mrs. Colby have had two children, namely: Charles Nathan, who was born June 17, 1905; and Wilda Rue, who was born July 15, 1911. Politically Mr. Colby is a Republican and conducts his paper in the interests of that party. He has served as a member of the village board of trustees and is greatly interested in promoting the welfare of Pecatonica.

The Pecatonica News is a bright weekly journal that has aided in no small way in promoting the interests of the village where it is published. It is a true representative of the people of this place and its value to the community cannot be overestimated. Tireless in its defense of the right and fearless in its denunciation of the evils of the age, it has won an enviable reputation among the best people of the county, and its popularity is proved by a constantly increasing subscription list.

COLEMAN, John S., page 704.

COLLINS, George W. The progress of agriculture was forwarded very materially in Winnebago County by the late George W. Collins, who, for years was a prosperous farmer of Guilford Township. He was born in Lewis County, N. Y., February 23, 1834, a son of Sylvester and Betsy (Glasgow) Collins, natives of New York state, although the family originated in New England and Scotland. In 1844 the parents moved to Hillsdale County, Mich., where they bought land.

George W. Collins lived with his parents, and in addition to his attendance at the public schools, he had the further advantages of a year in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. In 1855 he came to Winnebago County, Ill., and taught school for several winters, and in the summer did work on various farms. Later he bought a farm of 126 acres on section 5, Guilford Township, on which he erected all the present buildings, which are fine ones, and made many substantial improvements. For a few years after locating in this township, he taught school during the winter, and he traveled for J. P. Manny Reaper Works, and also was general

agent for the McCormick reaper. He conducted his farm, carrying on general farming and stock-raising until 1908, when he built a tenant house and afterward lived retired, renting his farm. He died April 3, 1913, and his burial was in the Harlem cemetery.

On May 6, 1857, Mr. Collins was married to Eliza Hart, who was born at Victor, N. Y., October 21, 1837, a daughter of Frederick and Sylvia (Rowley) Hart, natives of Ontario County, N. Y. The Harts came to Winnebago County in 1854, and the parents bought a farm on which they lived until the father's death, after which the mother lived for a time in Rockford, and then spent the remainder of her life with Mr. and Mrs. Collins. Mr. and Mrs. Collins became the parents of the following children: Rufus G., who is a physician of Chicago, married Cora Gibson, and they have Ruth, Vera, and George and Forrest, twins; Howard, who lives in Guilford Township on his own farm, married Minnie Nichols, and they have Josephine, who married Wm. J. Ferguson and have two children, Howard and Raymond; and Eva May, who lives with her mother, and they reside on a farm in the summer and at Rockford in winter.

Mr. Collins and his wife were charter members of the Christian Union church. He served as a justice of the peace and also as supervisor of Guilford Township, holding the latter office for seven years, and being elected on the Democratic ticket. He was on the board of the Old Peoples' Home of Rockford. A member of the Grange, he was deeply interested in agricultural matters and helped to organize the first farmers' institute. He was also an important factor in the Winnebago County Fair and served it as president for several years. Mr. Collins was one of the organizers of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Guilford Township, was its president many years, and had stock in the Rockford Star newspaper from the beginning of that journal. Always a very progressive farmer, he directed his influence toward the bettering of farm conditions, and was recognized as an expert on agricultural matters.

COLLINS, R. S., president of the Rockford Leather Washer Company, represents the class that stands highest in business and commercial circles at Rockford. Personally he is a man of unusual capability and judgment. He was born in McHenry County, Ill., May 29, 1874, and there educated. His business life commenced when he was employed in a creamery, but after a year in that establishment he came to Rockford, and here learned the wood carving trade, at which he worked for about four years. He was then with A. E. Sovereign & Company, manufacturers of neck yokes and similar specialties, for twelve years, rising to be foreman of a department. In 1903 he went to Manila, P. I., and bought a ranch of 800 acres, and spent two years there, operating his property and dealing in grain and lumber and also conducting a livery stable. After selling out his varied interests, he returned to the United States, and resumed his

duties as foreman with the C. E. Sovereign Company, but after two years, returned to the family homestead, in McHenry County, and for several years was engaged in farming. In 1910 he completed plans for the organization of his present company, which was incorporated on February 5 of that year, with himself as president; F. W. Trostle as secretary and treasurer; and M. B. Trostle as vice president.

On May 27, 1896, Mr. Collins was married at Beloit, Wis., to Nettie Woods of Rockford, born July 19, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Collins have become the parents of the following children: Pearl F., who was born February 19, 1899; Clayton L., who was born April 22, 1901; and Everett E. and Carrie B., twins, who were born August 23, 1904. Mr. Collins is a member of the Royal Arcanum, the Yeomen of America, the Elks and the Germania Society. He belongs to and is an active member of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce. In politics he is a Republican and attends the Methodist Church. His varied experiences have broadened his views and given him an insight into men and affairs that fit him for his duties as chief executive of a large concern. His business is in excellent condition, and its prosperity is the outcome of his policy.

COLTON, Austin. When a man is thrown upon his own resources and is forced to fight the battle of life for himself without backing or money, all the more credit is due him if he succeeds in his life work. Austin Colton, formerly of Rockford, was a man who was essentially selfmade for he was forced to work for his own support from the time he was eleven years old, losing his father at that tender age. He was born at Northampton, Mass., January 30, 1817, a son of Reuben and Roxanna (Atkins) Colton, natives of Northampton and Westfield, Mass. The mother died in her native state and the father at Niles, Mich.

After the death of his father, Austin Colton began a seven years' apprenticeship to the printer's trade on the Worcester Spy, and resided in Massachusetts until 1839 when he came to Winnebago County. He lived at Pecatonica until he bought out a newspaper, when he moved to Rockford. This paper he issued for many years, but subsequently bought a farm in Rockford Township, near Rockford, containing 160 acres. To this he later added many acres, and operated his farm a long while. Among his other purchases of property, he bought forty acres now included in the present Fourth Ward of Rockford, and all of this land is now divided into building lots bearing residences, the greater part of them having been sold at excellent prices. In 1853 Mr. Colton sold his newspaper, in order to devote all of his time to farming, although he continued to reside in the central portion of Rockford. After his arrival in the city he served as constable, but aside from this office, he did not accept public honors. The Republican party had his earnest support from its inception. His death occurred November 3, 1893, and at that time he was serving as presi-

dent of the West End Furniture Company, in which he had invested considerable money. Mr. Colton was one of the original boosters of the West End of Rockford and among other things set out the fine maple trees in Sunset Park. On his seventy-fifth birthday he set out seventy-five elm trees around his property. A greater part of this beautiful park was originally owned by him, and it is a recognized fact that Rockford owes much to his public spirit and foresightedness.

On May 30, 1856, in Massachusetts, Mr. Colton was married to Harriet Fowler, born at Westfield, Mass., March 20, 1828, a daughter of Royal and Harriet (Smith) Fowler, natives of Westfield and West Haven, Mass. Both parents died in their native state. Mr. and Mrs. Colton had the following children: Albert Lewis, who was born June 18, 1858, lives at Rockford, married Edith M. Pitney; Abraham Lincoln, who was born March 9, 1860, married Catherine M. Barnes, and they have two children, Katherine Harriet and Joseph Barnes, and they live at San Jacinto, Cal.; Miriam M., who was born November 3, 1863, resides with her mother; and Royal Fowler, who was born April 19, 1868, married Marion D. Collier, and they reside at Grand Bay, Ala. They have three children: Clarence Fowler, born October 23, 1895; Ethel Collier, born June 18, 1897; and Royal Clayton, born April 3, 1903. Miss Miriam has devoted much time to study of the piano, with her mother occupying a handsome new brick residence at No. 2205 W. State street, Rockford. Mrs. Colton possesses a very retentive memory and is as active and bright as many persons many years younger. The Colton family is one of the most highly respected in Winnebago County, the reputation of the father being fully sustained by the children.

COMSTOCK, Norte R. It is interesting to note that many of the most enterprising men of Winnebago County are either natives of the county, or those who were brought here in the early days when still children by parents who became pioneers of this section. This condition goes to prove the contention of Winnebago County people that it is difficult to find a locality better suited for the carrying on of varied lines of business. One of the men who is a native son of not only the county, but also the township in which he resides, is Norte R. Comstock of Rockton. He was born in Rockton Township, January 8, 1854, a son of Richard H. and Hannah (Horton) Comstock, most excellent people who came to the county in 1837. A sketch of them appears elsewhere in this work.

Norte R. Comstock attended the public schools of his township, and is a well informed man. When he was twenty years old he began learning the barber's trade, although his business career began a year earlier when he became an employe of the Rockton paper mill. After finishing his apprenticeship, Mr. Comstock established himself in this business in 1875, and has conducted it ever since. In 1885 he began con-

ducting a jewelry repairing business in connection with his barber shop, and has the only establishment of this kind in Rockton. This branch of his business grew to such an extent that in 1900, he built another store room to accommodate it.

On September 1, 1880, Mr. Comstock was married to Margaret Hickey, and they have had three children: Ray H., who lives at Milwaukee, Wis.; Bessie L., who is Mrs. William Polk of Madison, Wis.; and Floyd, who died in infancy. In politics Mr. Comstock is a Progressive, but has not desired public honors, his time being so fully occupied with his private affairs. A sound business man he has been able to recognize opportunities when presented, and to mold them to his own advantage.

COMSTOCK, Richard H. No history of Winnebago County would be complete without mention of those men who during their lives tilled the soil and brought about the present desirable agricultural conditions. One of these representative farmers was Richard H. Comstock of Rockton Township. He was born at Igme, Conn., June 14, 1815, a son of Calvin and Zarviah (Newton) Comstock, of English descent.

During his boyhood Richard H. Comstock attended the schools of his neighborhood, and so anxious was he to secure an education that he walked two and one-half miles each way in order to reach the schoolhouse. Prior to 1837, when he came to Rockton Township, Winnebago County, he worked as a carpenter in Chicago, Toledo, Ohio, and Ypsilanti, Mich., and built the first building on Randolph street, Chicago, also other buildings. Chicago at this time was called Fort Dearborn. In 1837 he purchased a farm in Rockton Township upon which he resided until 1893 when he moved to Rockton, and bought a residence set in two and one-half acres of land, on which his widow still lives, the farm having been sold. Mr. Comstock's farm had a fine stone quarry on it, and he ran two kilns for years and sold lime to many surrounding towns. Here he died January 18, 1894, respected by all who knew him.

On January 10, 1848, Richard H. Comstock was married at Morris, Ill., to Hannah Horton, born in Shelby Township, Jefferson County, Ind., a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Miner) Horton, natives of Norfolk, Va., and Lexington, Ky. James Horton was a millwright and farmer and lived in Indiana after moving to that state, until his death. Mrs. Comstock was born March 21, 1828. Mr. and Mrs. Comstock became the parents of the following children: Cecelia N., who is Mrs. George W. West of Beloit, Wis.; Alta M., who is Mrs. Hiram W. Young of Rockton, Ill.; and Norte Ray, who resides at Rockton, Ill. In addition to farming, Richard H. Comstock worked at his trade of carpenter and joiner to a considerable extent. In politics he was a Republican. He served as constable and as town commissioner. A man of solid qualities, he achieved considerable success be-

cause of his good judgment and his willingness to work and save.

CONANT, Cyrus C., a prosperous retired farmer of Rockford and one of the leading men of Winnebago County, was born at Sycamore, Ill., December 15, 1844, a son of Abraham and Delia (Marble) Conant, the former of whom was born at Boston, Mass., in 1794, and the latter at Cleveland, N. Y. Abraham Conant grew to manhood in Massachusetts but subsequently went to Oneida County, N. Y., where he engaged in a boot and shoe business. After five years he went to Sycamore, Ill., and there continued in the same line. In 1863 he left Sycamore and went to Ogle County, Ill., and lived on a farm owned by his wife until his death in 1864. His wife survived him until June 2, 1870, her death occurring in Monroe Center, Ill., when aged sixty-seven years. Abraham Conant was a Republican. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Church. The paternal grandparents spent their lives in their native state of Massachusetts where they were farming people. The maternal grandparents were natives of Vermont, but went to New York state and became large landowners.

Cyrus C. Conant passed his boyhood at Sycamore where he was educated, and went to Ogle County, Ill., with his parents. There he farmed and dealt in stock for thirty-eight years. He then retired and now lives at No. 1533 Kishwaukee street, Rockford. In addition to the beautiful home at Rockford, Mr. and Mrs. Conant own 200 acres of valuable farm land in Ogle County, and he is one of the substantial men of his locality.

On May 1, 1866, Mr. Conant was married to Harriet Riseborough, a daughter of William and Esther (Plane) Riseborough, of Monroe Center, Ill. Mr. Riseborough was a native of England, and came to the United States when young, locating first in New York state where for nine years he was engaged in a milling business. During that period he married, his wife also being a native of England, and they came west and settled in Ogle County, Ill., securing land from the government, their farm consisting of 640 acres, on which he lived until his death, passing away in 1857, aged forty-nine years. Mrs. Riseborough lived until 1914, dying at the age of ninety years, at Monroe Center, Ill. Mr. Riseborough was a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Conant became the parents of the following children: Ella, who married Frank Sheaff of Holcomb, Ill., and they have one daughter, Harriet C.; Mary F., who married David Sheaff of the same place; Abraham, who is at home; and Frank, who died in 1893, aged twenty years. Mr. Conant is a Republican, but has not cared for public honors. He belongs to the Methodist Church which he faithfully attends. Fraternally he is a Mason and is as popular in that order as he is among his fellow citizens.

CONRAD, Frank Henry, one of the progressive and substantial men of Rockford, was born at

Brookville, Ogle County, Ill., September 23, 1867, a son of George and Samantha (Flemming) Conrad, born in Northumberland County, Pa. They came west in 1856, stopping first at Chicago, but later buying land in Brookville Township, Ogle County, Ill. The trip was made by boat to Chicago, from whence they later drove to their new home.

Until he was fourteen years old, Frank Henry Conrad attended the district schools during the winter months but when only eight years old he left home and went to work for a family of the name of Stoner, of the Dunkard faith. After the death of Mrs. Stoner, Mr. Conrad went into the family of a Mr. Paul, in Ogle County. He worked for other families in Ogle County, but later went to Rockford where he worked in furniture factories for some years. He then became shipping clerk for the paper mills, and then was appointed pipeman of Fire Station No. 1, but after years of service, on account of a change of city administration, he was not re-appointed until 1901, when he was given the same position at station No. 2, and soon became third assistant engineer. After ten years in that position he became second assistant engineer at Station No. 4, but in February, 1913, he resigned. He owns the patent and manufactures the spring-grip tickets which are used to clamp tags on new clothing, and his trade is a very large and extensive one, he having received orders from New Zealand, Canada, and other points equally far away from his plant. His business is known as the Spring Grip Ticket Company.

On March 14, 1889, Mr. Conrad was married to Lyda J. Gibbs, born at Brookville, Ill., a daughter of Henry and Harriet (Haupt) Gibbs, natives of Oswego County, N. Y., and Northumberland County, Pa. They came to Ogle County, Ill., in 1844, and were early settlers of that section. At the time of his death the father was vice-president of the Old Settlers Association. The mother died April 2, 1872, and Mrs. Conrad was reared by an aunt, Mary Ann Fisk, of Chicago, with whom she remained until she was twenty years old, when she returned to Ogle County, and was soon thereafter married. Mrs. Conrad was educated in the grade and high schools of Chicago, and taught country schools for one year, in Carroll County. She belongs to the Woman's Club, the Rebekahs and has passed all the chairs in that order, as well as having represented the local order upon four occasions in the state assembly.

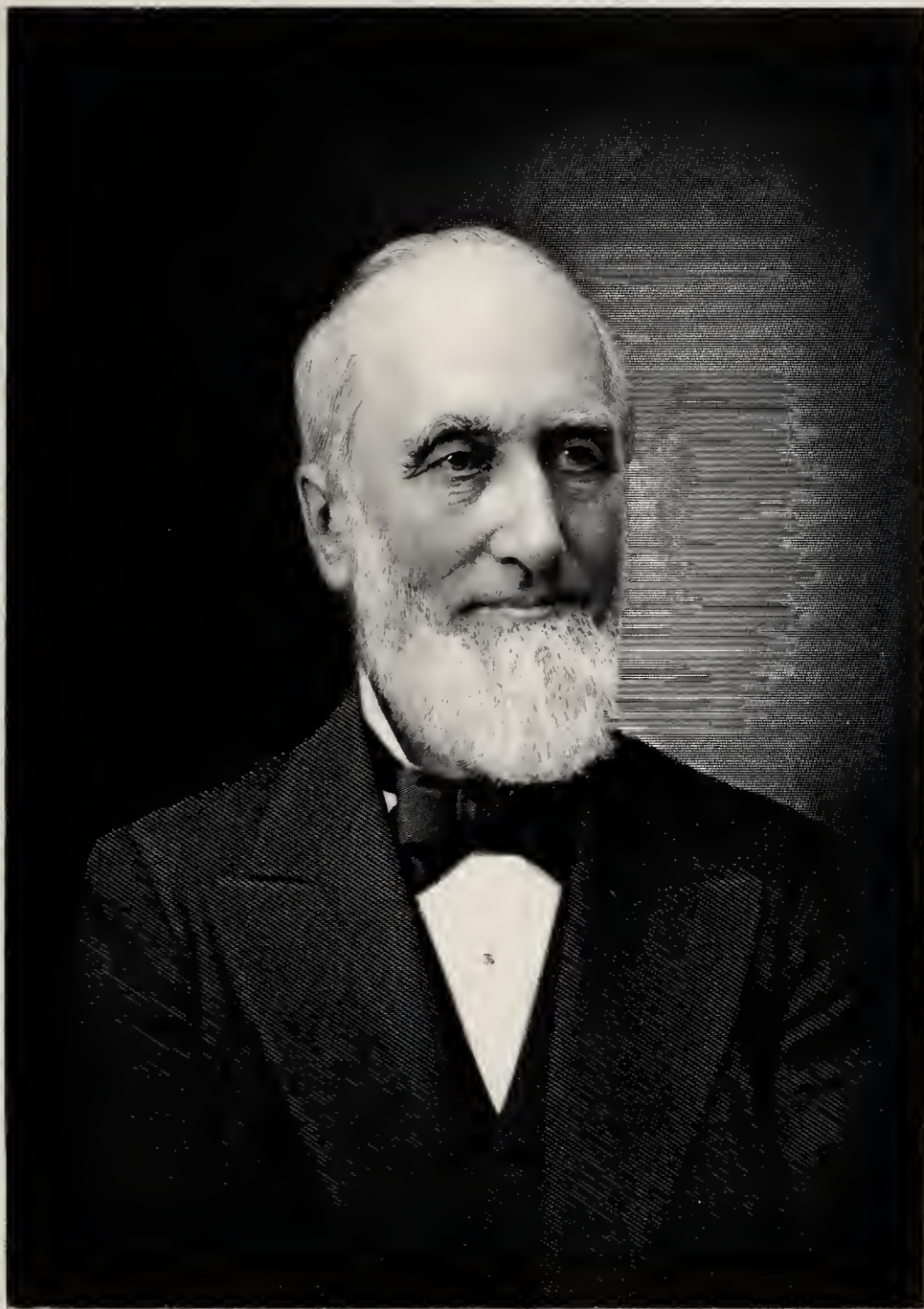
While Mr. and Mrs. Conrad have had no children of their own, they have given loving care to numerous nephews and nieces, and Mr. Conrad was very generous to his parents. Mr. Conrad is a member of Winnebago Lodge No. 31, I. O. O. F. In politics he is a Republican. He owns a fine modern residence at No. 1015 First avenue, and a block of stock in the Mechanics Furniture Company, in addition to his business, so that he is in very comfortable circumstances.

COPPINS, John F. When a man has shown himself able to establish an honorable business and develop a reliable trade through a steady and healthy growth, he has proven his worth and placed himself in a desirable position in his community. This has been accomplished by John F. Coppins, a prosperous flour and feed merchant at No. 119 S. Third street, Rockford. He was born at Buffalo, N. Y., March 5, 1851, a son of Samuel W. and Mary (Johnson) Coppins.

Samuel W. Coppins and his wife were both born in County Kent, England, where they married, and came to the United States in 1846, settling first at Buffalo, N. Y., but later at South Rockford, Ill., where Mr. Coppins worked for Richard Montague. He remained with this employer for three years and then moved to Ly-sander, Ill., north of Pecatonica, where he rented a farm for a year. Once more he established himself at Rockford and did teaming for the Fisher and Lake Lumber Co., for a number of years. Leaving this concern he went with the old Manny Reaper and Mower Works, and then bought a small farm in Guilford Township where he remained for three years. Selling this farm he went to Chickasaw County, Iowa, and farmed until his death, in October, 1874. His wife died on S. Church street, Rockford, in 1864, when she was thirty-two years old.

John F. Coppins attended school at Rockford, and his first employer was Dr. F. L. Vincent with whom he remained for eleven months. He then went to work for the Rockford Register and after a year with that newspaper entered the Manny works under W. A. Knowlton, and remained there two years. The following winter he worked in the old flax mill, and then went to Guilford Township where he had farming experience for three years, specializing on market gardening. For the succeeding ten years he was engaged in farming in Chickasaw County, Iowa, and during this period took up a claim in Lake County, So. Dak. In 1881 he returned to Rockford and went to work in the Derwent factory as a carpenter for his brother, W. J. Coppins. Later he was with Mr. Reitch, the carpenter, and was with the J. G. Chick Co., millers, for some years, after leaving going with Warren Woodruff, a hardware merchant, on W. State street. After a year, Mr. Coppins returned to the J. G. Chick Co. for a time, and then engaged with William and W. A. Keyt, as a carpenter, for six months, when he took a position with F. G. Morgan, in a flour and feed business. This association continued for five years, when Mr. Coppins embarked in this line of business for himself, at No. 102 S. Third street. Later he moved to his present location at No. 119 S. Third street, where he has prospered and is conducting a very large business.

In 1875 Mr. Coppins was married to Miss Frances Carpenter, of Albany, Wis., a daughter of Henry and Mary Carpenter, the marriage taking place at Nashua, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Coppins are the parents of three children: Mrs. Frank Bubser, who is of Dayton, Ohio; Mrs. C. R. Kessler who is of Rockford; and W. E.,



Melancthon Stan

who is of Rockford. Mr. Coppins is a member of the Methodist church. In politics he is a Republican but does not care for public life. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. A man of persistence he has never been afraid of hard work, but has forged right ahead to his present prosperous condition.

COSPER, Elias, page 707.

COWEN, James S., who has been a very substantial factor in determining the policy of civic affairs at Rockton for many years, is one of the honored Civil war veterans of Winnebago County. He was born in Ontario, Canada, December 15, 1835, a son of James and Mary (Stimson) Cowen, natives of County Cavan, Ireland, who came to Canada and there farmed until May, 1848, when they migrated to Winnebago County, Ill., and bought a farm in Harrison Township, on which both died. Their children were: James S., Ellen, Mary J., Anna, Sarah, William, Ezra and John, and by a later marriage Lizzie, Hattie and Henry.

James S. Cowen attended the Canadian schools and when fifteen years old began earning his own living by working by the month, receiving \$4 for his services, and when his first month's wage was given him in sixteen quarters, the lad felt that he was rich to have so much money. Later he worked in Roscoe Township, and about 1858 bought a farm in Harrison Township but later sold it. On August 6, 1862, Mr. Cowen enlisted for service during the Civil war in Company A, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was appointed sergeant and his regiment was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He was in some seventeen battles and skirmishes, from Chattanooga to Atlanta, and was injured at the battle of Stone River by a gunshot wound which compelled him to be in the hospital at Nashville, Tenn., for six weeks. He was sent by boat to New Albany, Ind., and was in the hospital at that point for three months. On leaving he was commissioned second lieutenant and received promotion to the first lieutenant while at Johnson's Ford, Tenn. Later he was commissioned captain of Company A, by President Johnson. Prior to his enlistment he had organized the Rockton Home Guards of which he had been commissioned captain by the governor, so had some experience before he entered actual warfare. Captain Cowen was honorably discharged July 10, 1865, and after returning home engaged in farming, and in 1868 bought a six-acre block in the corporation of Rockton. He also owns forty acres in Rockton Township.

In August, 1868, Mr. Cowen was married to Sarah M. Lester, born in Pennsylvania, whose parents were early settlers of Rockton. Mr. and Mrs. Cowen became the parents of the following children: William E., who lives with his parents; Evalyn M., who is Mrs. Luther Hopkins of Rockton; and Mabel, who is Mrs. Harry L. Lacock, of Beloit, Wis. For many years Mr. and Mrs. Cowen lived happily together, their

long companionship being severed by her death, October 23, 1905.

Mr. Cowen is a Republican, and served as town clerk for nine years, as supervisor for ten years, and for thirty years was on the village board of Rockton, and for two of those years was its president. The Odd Fellows and Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. hold his membership.

COX, Henry, formerly a resident of Rockford, and a man who possessed sterling traits of character that made him an influential factor wherever found, was born at Bentley, Hantsire, England, July 10, 1836, a son of James and Rebecca (Milan) Cox who died in England. Henry Cox came to Rockford in 1857, having lost his mother when he was only eight years old. After residing a year in Rockford, he went back to England and spent a year in his native place. In 1859 he once more came to Rockford and began working for Moses Bartlett in his grist and flour mill, remaining with him for many years. He was then with the firm of Chick & Cox, as junior member, in the flour business. Subsequently he traveled for the Bartletts and in the later years of his life was traveling salesman for Johnston Bros. Company of Milwaukee, and while on one of his trips for this firm, met with an accident which confined him to his bed for three weeks, and then complications set in and he died March 29, 1897. He served as a member of Company No. 1 of the Rockford Volunteer Fire Department, and was a reliable man in every respect. Fraternally he belonged to the Masons and Odd Fellows of Rockford. The Christian Union Church of Rockford held his membership.

On July 10, 1862, Mr. Cox was united in marriage with Ann Rew, who was born in Somersetshire, England, September 29, 1837, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Gould) Rew both of whom died in England. Mrs. Cox came to the United States in 1857, and made her home with her half brother, John Lake, of Rockford, until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Cox became the parents of the following children: Alice, who is Mrs. H. W. Kauffman of Rockford; Minnie, who is the widow of A. S. Ellsworth of Chicago; Edith R.; Harry V.; Grace, who died at the age of nine years; Joseph R., Olive B. and Herbert, who are residents of Rockford. Mrs. Cox helped to make the flag that was presented to Col. Ellsworth, the early martyr of the Civil war. She owns a handsome residence on Penfield place and is highly respected at Rockford.

COY, Robert Edwin, M. D. The late Dr. Robert Edwin Coy was a physician who not only gained the confidence of his patients because of his skill as a practitioner, but also won the respect of his community through his many excellent qualities as a man. For years he was a familiar figure in Winnebago County, and a potent factor in the life of Rockford. A native son of the county, he was born in Guilford Township, July 10, 1848. His father, William Coy, was born in England,

but came to the United States in young manhood, and after locating in Winnebago County met his future wife, Isabella Ziebach, a native of Pennsylvania. After their marriage they located in Guilford Township.

Growing up on his father's farm, Robert E. Coy in boyhood attended the public schools of his district, and later took a course in a commercial college, following which he traveled for a time in the interests of an agricultural implement firm and acted as a bookkeeper for a lumber company. Later he began the study of medicine, entering what was then the Chicago Medical College, but is now the Northwestern Medical College, in 1891, being graduated therefrom. Returning to Winnebago County, he entered upon a general practice at Rockford, and so continued until his death, November 21, 1905.

On May 16, 1894, Dr. Coy was married to Etta M. Swezey, a native of Winnebago County, and a daughter of A. J. and Malinda (Bruner) Swezey. Dr. and Mrs. Coy became the parents of a daughter, Isabella Mary, who was born February 25, 1905. Dr. Coy was elected township assessor of Guilford Township, and held other offices, and was faithful to all trusts reposed in him. A strong temperance man, he upheld his principles whenever he thought it necessary, and no doubt influenced many to follow his example.

CRAIG, Abbie Jewett. The county superintendent of schools, Abbie Jewett Craig, is a native of Winnebago County, a genuine "Winnebago." Born and reared on a farm, taught by parents who "walked and talked with Nature" to consider the "tilling of the soil," the noblest of all occupations, Mrs. Craig has an inherent love for country life which lent enthusiasm to her work as a country school teacher and inspires her work as county superintendent of schools.

Abbie Jewett Craig was the youngest of six children born to John Randolph and Elizabeth Gilmour Jewett at Harrison, Winnebago County, Ill. The two sisters, Clara and Ella, passed away in early womanhood; one brother, John R. Jewett, lives in Nebraska; another, George L. Jewett, makes his home in Rockford; and the third, Robert Burns Jewett, resides on the homestead at Harrison.

The Jewett family in America was founded by Maximilian and Joseph Jewett who with their wives and children sailed from Hull in the ship "John of London" with a body of Puritans under the leadership of Ezekiel Rogers in the autumn of 1638 and reached Boston, December 31, 1638. In the spring of 1639 they settled at Rowley, Mass., where they became men of affairs. Maximilian and Joseph Jewett were sons of Edward Jewett, clothier, Bradford, Yorkshire, England. In the country graveyard at Rowley, where nine generations of Jewetts repose, may be seen a fitting memorial to the two brothers from whom the most of the Jewetts in America are descended.

Mrs. Craig's father, John Randolph Jewett, came to Winnebago County from Genesee

County, N. Y., in 1838. He became an intimate friend of Stephen Mack with whom he worked for a time at Rockton, building the first bridge that ever spanned Rock River. Mr. Jewett took up land on the bank of the Pecatonica River near the present village of Harrison. After several unsuccessful attempts to construct a permanent dam across the river to operate his sawmill, he gave up milling and devoted his entire attention to farming. Her mother, Elizabeth Gilmour Jewett, a native of Kentucky of Scotch descent on the father's side and a Virginian on the mother's side, came to this county in the early forties. After living at Roscoe for a time Mrs. Jewett's step-father, Richard H. Smith, moved his family to Harrison where she met and afterwards married Mr. Jewett. Mrs. Jewett was one of the pioneer school teachers, having taught school in a log cabin south of Harrison in what is now known as the Young's district. Mr. Jewett was a man of sterling qualities, esteemed by his fellow townsmen and widely known in the county. Mrs. Jewett ever took an active part in community life and was beloved for her ready sympathy and good works.

Handicapped by a delicate physique which prevented her from attending school away from home, Abbie Jewett Craig was, in a sense, self educated, studying with private teachers both before and after her marriage, and having the assistance of parents who thoroughly appreciated books and who owned a modest library of the best authors. While a pupil in the Harrison school Mrs. Craig won the highest honors in the township for scholarship, and was given a life scholarship to Becker's Business College, for specimens of school work exhibited at the county fair. At the age of sixteen she received a teacher's certificate and became a public school teacher. Shortly afterwards she was granted a first grade certificate, one of the two held by teachers in the northern part of the county at that time. A number of years ago Mrs. Craig took work at the DeKalb State Normal School.

In 1885 Abbie Jewett was united in marriage to Robert Burns Craig, at the Jewett home in Harrison. Mr. Craig came to Harrison from Camden, N. Y., in 1880. His father, a Scotchman, was killed in action beside the Rappahannock River during the Civil war. Mr. Craig studied law in the office of Frost and McEvoy and was admitted to the bar in 1889. He practiced law for a time in Rockford where he made many warm friends who still remember "Bob" Craig most kindly. He was a member of the Rockford Rifles for a number of years and at the time of his discharge from the militia, a few months before his death in 1898, he was a member of the Colonel's staff.

Two daughters, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Craig: Elizabeth and Ruth H. Beth passed away at four years of age; Ruth H. graduated from the Rockford High school in the class of '15 and is now attending college.

Mrs. Craig taught a few summer terms in the country schools before her marriage and after marrying taught a part of the time until the

spring of 1891 when for about ten years she devoted her time to family duties. Her husband's death throwing her upon her own resources for the support of herself and infant daughter, she again entered the teaching profession. For six years she taught the Shirland school during which time the school attracted considerable attention through the "Annual Report of Winnebago County Schools." A collection of work from the school during that time including hand work and the first articles of sewing done in a one room school in the county, made no small part of the educational exhibit from Winnebago County at the St. Louis World's Fair. Leaving Shirland Mrs. Craig spent three years teaching in the graded school at South Beloit, the last year as assistant principal. In the fall of 1911 she entered the Rockford schools and for two years was given special work, at times acting as assistant principal and principal of the ward schools.

At the September session of the county board of supervisors in 1913, Abbie Jewett Craig was selected to fill the vacancy in the office of county superintendent of schools, a selection which the people of the county endorsed at the polls in November, 1914, by electing her to the position for four years by a large majority.

Mrs. Craig has established an excellent record for faithful, devoted and capable service and has secured the cooperation and confidence of her fellow-workers in the cause of education.

CUNNINGHAM, Benjamin F., for a number of years was a prosperous farmer of Winnebago County. He was born at Petersboro, N. H., February 3, 1820, a son of James and Sarah (Cunningham) Cunningham. These parents in May, 1839, came to Winnebago County, Ill., and entered land from the government in Rockford Township, where they lived until the early '50s, retiring then and moving to Rockford.

Benjamin F. Cunningham was educated in the academy of his native place and came to Winnebago County a short time before his parents. Until two years after his marriage, he resided with them, then purchased a farm near Centerville where he lived for three years, then spent one winter in Rockford, and then bought a farm of eighty acres on the state road, four miles west of Rockford, but after three years sold it and bought a residence at Rockford, where he lived until 1858. He then went to California by water, and back, running a stage for his brother. He was gone two years, then he traded his city property for a farm near Pecatonica, this county, and it continued his home until 1868, and in the spring of 1869 this house was built. In that year he sold and came back to Rockford, but within a year he bought another farm, seventy acres, just one-half a mile south of Rockford. There he carried on general farming although for a number of years he was an invalid, and in the fall of 1870 he returned to California for his health, but in the fall of 1871 returned to Rockford. From 1872 to 1879 he again went to California and with his

brother in Nevada City, Cal., again staged and carried mail and passengers. His death occurred in June, 19, 1900, since which time his widow has resided on the farm, although she rents out her cultivated land.

On March 14, 1844, Mr. Cunningham was married to Clarissa Jane Mandeville, born April 1, 1822, in Genesee County, N. Y., a daughter of Michael and Elsie Ann (Corey) Mandeville. The former was born at Cornwell-on-the-Hudson, N. Y., and the latter was also born in New York. There were several brothers by the name of Corey, and one, Alonzo Corey, owned 1,700 acres of land along the banks of Rock River just south of Rockford, with an island of several acres. Mr. Mandeville was a soldier during the War of 1812. In 1839 the family came to Winnebago County, locating on land they entered from the government. Mr. and Mrs. Mandeville had the following children: Henry N., who is deceased; Stephen, who died at the age of four years; Clarissa Jane; Courtland, who died in 1912; Horton, who died in 1909; Harriet P., who is the widow of John Gilbert and resides at Fort Wayne, Ind.; and Edward W., who lives at Santa Barbara, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham had one daughter, Jennie E., who lives with her mother.

Mr. Cunningham was affiliated with the Christian Union Church. He held several county and township offices, and was a man of probity and uprightness. Mrs. Cunningham is a remarkable lady, possessed of all her faculties and remembers innumerable interesting events of the early days in Winnebago County. She recalls the trip to Illinois by water to Toledo and from there here by trains. Rockford was a small village then. She learned to card and spin when a girl. She celebrated her ninety-fourth birthday, April 1, 1916, a memorable occasion on which she received presents and congratulations from many friends.

CUNNINGHAM, Isaac N., page 646.

CUNNINGHAM, Samuel, page 658.

CUNNINGHAM, Willard, page 658.

CURREN, Thomas F. The rapid growth of Rockford has developed great activity in all building lines, and given an outlet for the abilities and business tastes of some of the city's most representative men. One of those who has held contracts for some of the finest residences of the city, is Thomas F. Curren, contractor and builder, of No. 1127 Peach street. He was born at Marengo, Ill., December 2, 1860, a son of Richard and Katherine (Care) Curren, natives of Ireland. They came to the United States when young, and were married in McHenry County, going to live on a farm in that county at that time.

Thomas F. Curren was reared on this farm and educated in the country schools of his neighborhood. Until he was eighteen years old, he worked on his father's farm, and then began

learning the carpenter's trade. In 1891 he came to Rockford, and in 1895 began working for W. H. Cook, and continued with him until 1907, when Mr. Curren branched out as a contractor and builder, confining his operations to residential work. He has recently completed two \$12,000 residences on Garfield avenue for an important realty firm of Rockford, and has held contracts for twelve other residences for this same firm, and for twenty-seven other residences as well. He employs an average of six men and is recognized as one of the most skillful and reliable builders in the city.

In 1892 Mr. Curren was married to May B. Wells who was born in McHenry County, and they have had two children: Nina A. and Margie L.

CURTIS, Henry B., a prominent business man of Winnebago County, who is extensively engaged in buying wool and fur being an expert in his line, is conveniently located in the village of Roscoe. He was born at Beloit, Wis., October 22, 1849, a son of Dr. John and Roxanna (Wood) Curtis. Both parents were born in Maine, the mother at Blue Hill. Both died in Illinois. After being graduated from a medical college in his native state, Dr. John Curtis went to Wisconsin, and spent a short time at Beloit, but later moved to Roscoe, Winnebago County, Ill., where he practiced medicine for a number of years. He then bought 120 acres of land near Roscoe and operated it for fifteen years, but subsequently returned to the village of Roscoe, and there continued to practice medicine until his death.

H. B. Curtis attended school at Harlem, Ill., and after his marriage, in 1873, spent two years on his father's homestead, following which he moved to Roscoe and began buying and shipping wool and fur, and has since continued in this line. He is an expert in the sorting of fur, which work he does during the winter for the W. F. Warner Company of St. Louis, Mo. During his earlier business experience, he operated a meat market at Roscoe for a short time.

In 1873 Mr. Curtis was married to Miss Alice Ritcherson, a daughter of William M. and Lucy A. (Warner) Ritcherson, and they have one child, Rubie Curtis. She married Wyman Lovejoy of Harlem Township. In politics Mr. Curtis is a Republican and has been village clerk for nine years and a school director five years. The Methodist Church holds his membership and receives his generous support.

William M. Ritcherson, father of Mrs. Curtis, was born at Spencer, Mass., September 3, 1820, and his wife was born at Lima, Conn., near Weathersfield, September 19, 1824. They were married February 12, 1850, at Roscoe, Ill., and there they lived and died. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Curtis died in Massachusetts, and William M. Ritcherson came to Roscoe, Ill., in 1839, he then being nineteen years old, accompanied by his brother Benjamin. Both were expert mechanics, and they opened at Roscoe a shop for the purpose of manufacturing the

Roscoe plow, an implement that later became known all over the country. Mr. Ritcherson brought the first sulky plow into Winnebago County. He was a man of means and enterprise and continued his manufacturing activities until he retired from business. In addition to his business interests he owned 160 acres of land near Roscoe.

CUTLER, Robert. Although only two months of his useful life were spent at Rockford, Robert Cutler left descendants who have contributed largely towards the development of this city and county, so that he deserves much more than passing mention in a record of this character. Born in Lancastershire, England, in 1802, Robert Cutler lived in his native land until 1840, but in that year came to the United States, and landed at New York City with but twenty-five cents in his pocket. To the determined man this made but little difference, for he was willing and able to work, and he secured employment on the Erie Canal then in process of construction. As soon as he had enough money, which was during that same year, he came on as far as Chicago, when it was but a little village of muddy streets. The future metropolis did not attract him, so he came on to Rockford, but only remained a couple of months, moving on a farm in Boone County, Ill., that he entered, and on it he resided the remainder of his life, dying there in 1894.

While living in Rockford, on January 1, 1841, Mr. Cutler was married to Mary (Payne) Kerley, born in Crocerton, England, in 1807, a widow who had three children, namely: Rhoda, Mrs. Freeman Biglow, is now deceased; David, who died at Rockford; and Joseph, who died in Washington. Mrs. Cutler died in 1874 in Rockford, Ill. They had the following children: Anna M., who is Mrs. William J. Wilson of Beloit, Wis.; William H., who lives on the old farm in Boone County, Ill.; Edward H., who died at Chicago; Caroline S., who married Charles Willson, an attorney of Belvidere, Ill., who moved to Rockford, but died within two years and his widow in 1876, returned to Boone County, Ill., but later came back to Rockford, where she still lives, having two children—Mary E., who is with her, and Robert H., who lives at Los Angeles, Cal., married Edith Penfield and has two children—Janet and Robert; James H., who is on his father's old farm; Ida I., who is Mrs. James Blake of Wood River, Neb.; Mrs. Anna M. Willson, who is a widow, has two children—Delphine E. of Rockford and Florence of Beloit, Wis.; James H., who married Addie Marsden, has two children—Archie and Meda, who are at home; and Ida, I. has one son, Frank Blake of Idaho. All members of the Cutler family are doing well and are desirable additions to every community where they have seen fit to locate.

DAILEY, Leo C., proprietor of the Congress Confectionery Company at No. 203 W. State street, one of the most popular establishments of its kind on the West side, is one of the prosperous and alert young business men of Rockford. He was born in Rock River Township,



Munsell Publishing Company

1000 1000

Ellen M. Starr

Stephenson County, Ill., February 24, 1885, a son of Edward and Mary (Bradley) Dailey. Edward Dailey and wife were born near Chicago, Ill., and they left there for Stephenson County early in married life. There the father bought a farm and conducted it until 1890, when he died, aged fifty-five years, and the mother also died on the farm, in 1911, aged seventy-two years. In politics the father was a Democrat. He belonged to St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

Leo C. Dailey was reared on a farm, and attended the schools in his district, and the Pecatonica High school, from which he was graduated in the class of 1904. For the following two years he taught school, and was then appointed to a position in the Rockford postoffice and held it for eight years, on June 20, 1914, resigning it in order to establish his present business. Since then he has conducted a general confectionery and ice cream establishment, and serves light luncheons during the noon hour and in the evening, to meet a popular demand. It is his pride that the quality of his goods never varies from the uniform standard of excellence he established at the beginning, and he enjoys a large patronage.

On October 16, 1913, Mr. Dailey was married to Miss Alice Burke, a daughter of Michael and Mary Burke of No. 121 Oakley avenue. Mr. Dailey is essentially a self made man, and has had to work hard for all he possesses for he was the youngest of thirteen children and his parents could give him but little assistance. However, through good judgment and industry he has made a success of his undertakings, and he enjoys the confidence and esteem of all with whom he is associated.

DALE, Lycurgus M., a member of the firm of Dale & Seaton, land agents at Pccatonica, who formerly was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits in Winnebago County, is a native of Livingston County, N. Y., and his birth occurred July 4, 1850. His parents were Thompson and Adelia (Satterly) Dale, also natives of the Empire state. The father came to Winnebago County with his family in 1856, and located one mile north of the town of Pccatonica where he lived for a year, and then removed to a farm about five miles northeast of the town, making his home thereon for seven years. The next change took place when he moved to Elton, Ill., and there he lived until his death. By trade he was a cabinet-maker, and conducted a shop in New York state, where he manufactured furniture and coffins, all of the work then being done by hand. All of the furniture in his own home after his removal to Illinois was made by him, and he did some cabinet work for others, and also executed some jobs of painting although the greater part of his time was devoted to his farming on rented land, and raised cattle, horses and hogs. During the last eight years of his life he was in poor health and it was thought that he had been poisoned by the fumes from the paint he had used in painting. He held membership in the order of Odd Fellows, and favored

the teachings of the Baptist church. His politics accorded with the Jeffersonian principles of democracy. He died September 20, 1870, at the age of fifty-four years. He and his wife had the following children: Dallas, who died in infancy; Homer T., who is living at Carthage, Mo., is married and has one child; Philetus L., of Emporia, Kas.; Lycurgus M., who is the fourth of the family; Lillie A., who died at the age of nine years three months and three days; Chauncy C., who died at the age of two years; Chandler Alexander, a twin brother of Chauncy C., who is a resident of Emporia, Kas., has his second wife and they have five living children; and Perry, who died at the age of eighteen months.

Lycurgus M. Dale remained at home until nine years old when he began working, following the men mowing hay, his task being to turn it over. He thus worked all day long and for ten cents per day, and continued on the farm and by the time he was eleven years old he was receiving six dollars per month, and as his years increased, he received still better wages. For thirteen summers he continued to work on farms, and in the winter seasons he attended school until fifteen years old. The winter he was sixteen years old he and his brother, who was two years his senior, chopped 100 cords of wood. Through another winter he was engaged in teaming as well as wood chopping. When he was eighteen he went to Iowa, but soon returned to Illinois where he worked in a mill and as a farm hand, by the month, until he was twenty-five years old. At that time he began farming on shares and so continued for seven years. In 1882 he began buying and selling stock. He then went to Kansas and was engaged in various lines of business at Emporia for five and one-half years, when once more he returned to Illinois, and commenced farming on eighty acres of land in Winnebago County. In the spring of 1903 he bought of John D. Jackson, a fine home in Pccatonica, surrounded by five acres of land, and since then has been a land agent, and a member of the firm of Dale & Seaton, his partner being W. S. Seaton. The firm is doing an excellent business.

On September 28, 1875, Mr. Dale was married to Miss Clio Gates, a daughter of Lorenzo and Nancy J. Thompson Gates, the former of whom was one of the early settlers of Winnebago County, coming here when thirteen years old. He broke the raw prairie and hauled his wheat to Chicago and his dressed hogs to Galena. Mr. Gates died September 26, 1901, aged seventy-four years, his wife passing away in February, 1897, aged sixty-five years. Mr. Gates was a charter member of Eureka Camp No. 50, M. W. A., and his political allegiance was given to the Republican party. He and his wife had two children: Olus, who is living in Emmet County, Iowa, and Mrs. Dale, who died April 15, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Dale had seven children: Clifton, who resides in Montana; Orvinnia, who married Byron McGraw and has one daughter, Hazel; Eleanor; Nettie, who married G. Phelps, of

Cherry County, Nebr.; Viola, who lives in Chicago; Gilbert, who lives in Montana; and Rannie, who died in infancy. On January 1, 1914, Mr. Dale was married (second) to Mrs. Sarah Rafim, who died April 5th, 1915.

Mr. Dale has served as a school director for three years, and gives his political support to the Republican party. He is a member of Eureka Camp No. 50, M. W. A., with which he has been affiliated since 1887, and his first wife was a member of the Fraternal League, and she and their daughter Eleanor were members of the Woman's Relief Corps. Mrs. Dale was a school director for two years during their residence in Durand Township. Without doubt Mr. Dale is one of the best examples of a self-made man Winnebago County possesses, and his prosperity has been won through hard work, aided of course by excellent judgment.

DANIELLS, William A., who is in charge of the shipping department of the Woodward Governor Company, with residence at No. 1312 School street, is one of the sound, reliable men of Rockford, upon whom all dependence can be placed. He was born at Ira, Cayuga County, N. Y., September 1, 1839, a son of Virol and Sophronia (Osborn) Daniells.

Nirol Daniells was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., in 1812, and there was educated and married to Sophronia Osborn, who was a native of the same county. He learned the carpenter trade. In 1849 he went to California, and remained in that state until 1851, and during that period became very prominent there, being elected county judge of Colusa County, Cal., and lived in the town of Eldorado. In 1851 he moved to Kenosha, Wis., the family making the trip both ways with horses and a wagon, but only spent a year there, coming in 1852 to Rockford. Here he resumed his work as a carpenter, and was elected the first police magistrate Rockford ever placed in office. In 1866 he went to Rochelle, Ill., where he spent four years working at his trade, and then left for Seward, Neb., where he bought land, improved it and lived upon it until his death which was caused by his falling from the steeple of the Baptist Church which he was building. His wife died in 1899, aged seventy-eight years, at Denver, Colo. In politics he was a Republican, and he and wife were members of the Christian Union Church.

William A. Daniells was reared at Rockford, and there educated. He enlisted in the United States navy, and was in the government service for a long time. He returned to Rockford and engaged in work at the carpenter trade with his father for a number of years, going with him to Rochelle, where he continued to work as a carpenter until 1871. In that year he went to Chicago, as carpenters were in great demand there to repair the damage done by the disastrous fire, and he remained in that city for a year, and then came back to Rockford, which has continued his home ever since. For some years he worked at his trade and then, in 1890,

accepted his present position which he has filled for a quarter of a century, being one of the valued employes of his company.

In 1867 Mr. Daniells was married to Miss Sara Spalding, a daughter of Asa Gore and Susan B. (Welding) Spalding of Byron, Ill. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, who came west at an early day, locating in Ogle County, Ill. There the Spaldings took up government land which they improved, and also secured a farm of 640 acres in Stillman Valley. In addition to his large farming interests, he operated a store, a gristmill, a sawmill, a ferry boat, and built his own boats and was the first postmaster at Byron. In 1856 he located at Rockford where he went into a grain business with Warner Blinn, but on the night of the death of President Lincoln, their warehouse caught fire, and the partners sustained a total loss. Mr. Spalding then traveled for the Underwood Company, of Chicago, a commission house, but after some years went to Webster City, Iowa, where he established himself in an implement business with J. S. Root, and continued it until his retirement, when he came back to Rockford, and here he died.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniells have had two children: Francis Irene, who died aged nine months; and Lena May, who is the wife of D. Thronson, of Racine, Wis.

DAVIS, Abram E. The name of Davis is associated with some of the most successful farming interests of Guilford Township. Representatives of the name are worthy of the respect and esteem accorded them by members of the communities in which they live. One of these, Abram E. Davis, farmer and stockraiser and shipper, was born in Guilford Township, July 29, 1865. Here he attended the public schools and later took a course in the Rockford Business College. In 1883 he began earning his own living by working on the homestead farm, and there remained assisting his widowed mother until February, 1894. In that year he moved to his present farm of 260 acres situated on sections 35 and 36, Guilford Township, which he had bought in 1893. This has been his place of residence, with the exception of two years, 1901 and 1902 when he lived at Rockford, ever since. He carries on general farming and has been one of the leading stock men of the county, raising full-blooded Angus cattle for shipping, an average of twenty-five head annually, and buying and feeding an average of eighty head of cattle for the market.

On November 12, 1891, Mr. Davis was married to Carrie Whittle, who was born in Guilford Township, November 1, 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have one son, Frederick A., who was born November 26, 1894. He is now a student in the agricultural department of the Illinois State University. In politics Mr. Davis is a Republican. The Davis home is a beautiful residence located on section 36, Guilford Township, one-half mile north of Cherry Valley.

Charles Whittle, the father of Mrs. Davis,

was the second son of Thomas Whittle, born at Detroit, Mich., in 1783, and Betsey (Leveau) Whittle, born in 1785. The birth of Charles Whittle occurred in Essex Co., Canada, August 8, 1814. In 1837 Charles Whittle came to Winnebago County, and soon thereafter bought the farm in Guilford Township now owned by his son, Fred J. Whittle. The mother of Mrs. Davis bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Sawyer Fox, and she was born at Oxford, Me., December 27, 1832, a daughter of Luther and Betsey (Sawyer) Fox, the former born in 1804, and the latter in 1807. In 1854 Elizabeth Sawyer Fox was married to Hiram Cole, and came to Winnebago County. Mr. and Mrs. Cole had one son, Charles S. Cole. After the death of Mr. Cole, Mrs. Cole was married, January 12, 1865, to Charles Whittle. Mr. Whittle died December 27, 1884, but Mrs. Whittle survived until May 12, 1906. Thus it will be seen that Mr. and Mrs. Davis are direct descendants of early county settlers the authenticated records of whom should be preserved with other county annals.

DAVIS, Albert Francisco, now living in honorable retirement at No. 734 West State street, Rockford, is one of the substantial men and old veterans of Winnebago County. He was born at Waverly, Tioga County, N. Y., July 8, 1844, a son of Adam H. and Janet (Vedder) Davis. In 1854 the family came to Winnebago County, and bought a farm in Rockford Township, but sold it in 1866, and went to Manchester, Iowa. Later the parents sold their property there and went to Florida where they contracted yellow fever and there died. Their children were as follows: Albert F.; Sarah, who is Mrs. Harry Dorman, of Minneapolis, Minn.; Frank, who lives at Lincoln, Ill.; and Elnora, who died in young womanhood. The father enlisted for service during the Civil war in Company C, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in 1862, and was discharged for disability after the battle of Stone River.

Albert Francisco Davis was educated in the public schools of Tioga and Winnebago counties and was reared to farm life. In September, 1861, he enlisted for service during the Civil war, in Company G, Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the battles of Shiloh, siege of Corinth and siege of Vicksburg, and was also in the engagements at Raymond and Champion's Hill, and then was sent with others on a raid to Meridian, Miss. He then veteranized and went home on a thirty day furlough. Returning, he rejoined his regiment at Cairo, Ill., and took a boat up the Ohio River. At the close of the war he was honorably discharged. On returning to Winnebago County he was profitably engaged in several callings and was in a mechanical capacity for a number of years, retiring about 1912, since which time he has enjoyed the fruits of his former labors.

On March 13, 1883, Mr. Davis was married to Dora Richards, born at Durand, Ill., a daughter of D. S. and Hannah (McCord) Richards, na-

tives of New York and Summerville, N. J. About 1859 Mr. Richards came west to Illinois, making the trip to Chicago by boat and thence with a team of mules to Owen Center, Ill., where he lived on a farm until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Davis became the parents of two children, Bessie, who was Mrs. Edward O'Callahan, died at Rockford, December 8, 1911; and Raymond E., who lives with his parents. Mrs. Davis was educated in the public schools of her native place. Mr. Davis is independent in politics. He belongs to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and his wife belongs to the Woman's Relief Corps. Mrs. Davis is press correspondent for this post. They are justly regarded as representative people of this city and county.

DAVIS, Frank M., who has always resided on the farm which is now his home, is wedded to the soil by birth, inheritance and inclination, and is justly numbered among the progressive farmers of the county. He was born in Guilford Township, July 10, 1871, a son of Thaddeus and Mary A. (McClary) Davis, and a grandson of Thaddeus Davis.

Reared amid wholesome rural surroundings, Frank M. Davis was taught farming from his boyhood, and was sent to the schools of his district and also a business college at Rockford. When his father died he bought 100 acres of the homestead, on which was the house in which he was born, the barns and other buildings, and in 1914 he bought 106 acres additional, owning in all 206 acres on section 24, Guilford Township. In 1910 Mr. Davis built a modern brick residence, of twelve rooms, and equipped it with gas light, hot and cold water, and other modern improvements so that it is a model of convenience and comfort. On this farm Mr. Davis carries on general farming and dairying and for the latter purpose has built a modern cow barn with cement floor, patent stalls, compressed air milking plant, and other very desirable, improved appliances. He milks thirty-eight high grade Jersey cattle, but is arranging to add many head to his herd.

On October 7, 1896, Mr. Davis was married to Mary Eunice DuBois, born in Belvidere Township, Boone County, Ill., September 9, 1873, a daughter of Fredrick and Celestia (Gleason) DuBois, he born in Belvidere Township, October 3, 1842, and she was born in Guilford Township, this county, May 31, 1844. The Du Bois and Gleason families were pioneers in Boone and Winnebago counties where they took up government land. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have two children, namely: Erwin Frederick, who was born March 19, 1900; and Lester Thaddeus, who was born April 22, 1905. Mr. Davis is thoroughly alive to the possibilities and necessities of modern methods, and is constantly experimenting with and adopting new ideas in his work.

DAVIS, Jacob. During life the late Jacob Davis was one of the substantial agriculturalists of Guilford Township and was a man universally

honored and respected. He was the ninth son of Thaddeus and Catherine (Kirkland) Davis. He was born in Southland, Canada, May 27, 1832, and there lived until 1839 when his parents migrated to Winnebago County, which continued to be his home the remainder of his life. Possessed of business capacity his undertakings proved generally successful, and as he was honest and upright in his dealings with others, he gained and retained their respect.

In 1860 Jacob Davis was married to Harriet Campbell, born in Durand Township, Winnebago County, April 26, 1830. Mrs. Davis survives and makes her home in the town of Cherry Valley. They became the parents of the following three children: Elmer, who died in infancy; Abram E., and Mrs. Florence Fitch.

Until his marriage, Jacob Davis resided with his parents to whom he rendered filial attention. At that time he bought a farm on section 13, Guilford Township, where he lived afterward until his death, developing this property into a very valuable one, and increasing his acreage to 145 acres. His death occurred November 7, 1875. Few of the modern time and labor-saving appliances and machines had come into general use, or even been invented when Jacob Davis carried on his farm, and naturally the work in his day, because of that fact, was extremely laborious. However, he farmed successfully, and was numbered among the prosperous agriculturalists of his township.

DAVIS, Thaddeus. During his long and useful life, Thaddeus Davis, a competent farmer of Guilford Township, set an example of industry, thrift and successful operation that has been followed by his children and imitated by many of his neighbors. He was born in Southland, Canada, June 17, 1828, seventh child of Thaddeus and Catherine (Kirkland) Davis. Thaddeus Davis was born on a farm twelve miles from Albany, N. Y., June 19, 1793, a son of William Davis, who was born in Connecticut, of English parentage. William Davis moved to New York state and lived on the farm where his son Thaddeus was born, until his death at the age of ninety-four years.

Thaddeus Davis, the elder, married Catherine Kirkland, who was born near Schenectady, N. Y., February 10, 1797. Her parents were natives of Scotland. Some years after his marriage Thaddeus Davis took his family to Canada, making the trip with ox teams and having to cut his way through the wilderness. He located on a timber tract in Southland, Canada, London District, but sold his farm in 1839, and moved to Winnebago County, Ill. The family brought their household goods, cattle and sheep with them, and were on the road six weeks. Upon his arrival Thaddeus Davis bought a squatter's claim on section 24, Guilford Township, this farm now being owned by two of his grandsons. Mr. and Mrs. Davis became the parents of ten children, as follows: Jane, Eliza, David, Robert, Daniel, Joseph, Thaddeus, George, Jacob and

John. The father of this family died October 30, 1851, while the mother died May 12, 1871.

When he was eleven years old, Thaddeus Davis (2) was brought to Guilford Township, and here he was reared to useful manhood. He continued to live on the homestead, and at his father's death he bought the 140 acre farm, having previously invested in twenty acres adjoining. At the time of his death he owned 160 acres all in section 24, Guilford Township.

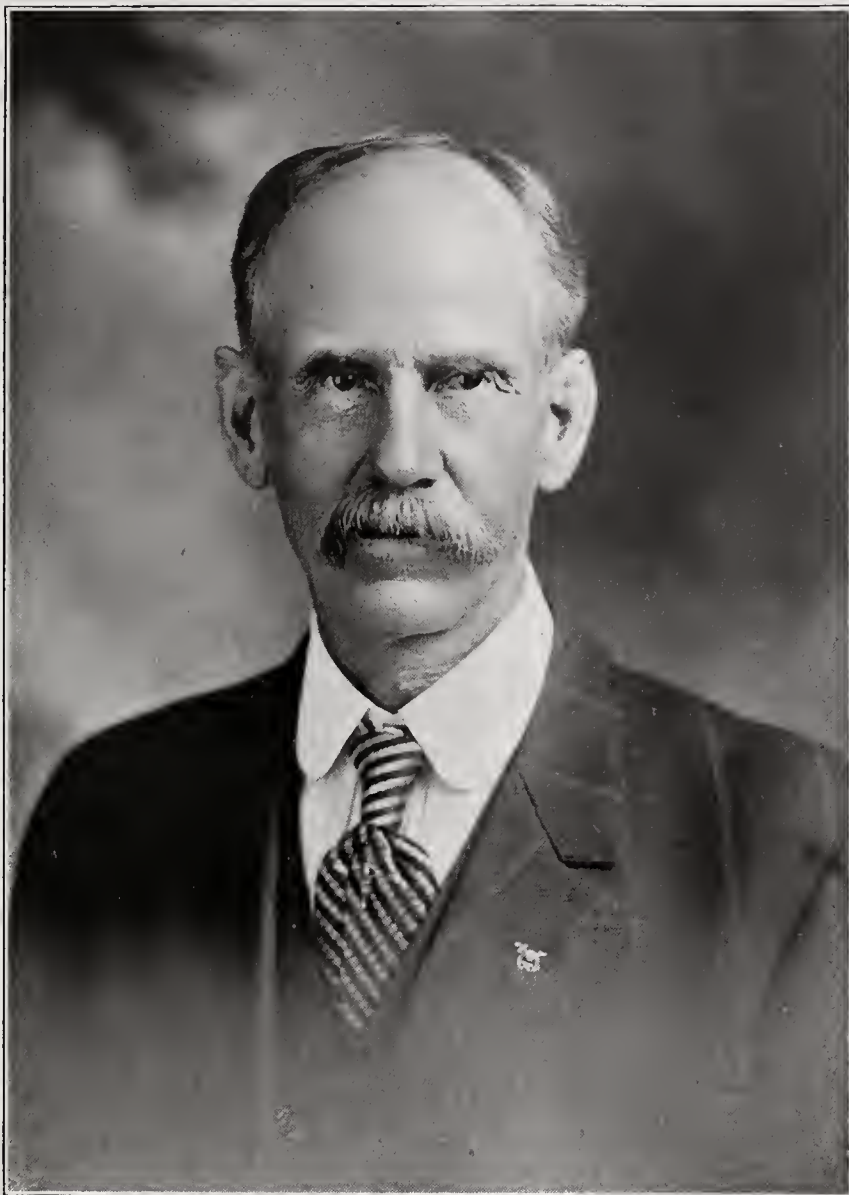
On December 10, 1857, Thaddeus Davis was married to Mary A. McClary, born in Onondaga County, N. Y., April 26, 1834, and they had the following children: Alma, who married A. B. Hammond of Belvidere, Ill., was born September 21, 1861; Thaddens G., whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; Mary E., who married Sherman W. Teeple of Belvidere, Ill., was born September 25, 1869; and Frank M., whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. A man of unquestioned honor, upright in all his dealings, Thaddeus Davis became a well to do man through untiring work and thrifty saving, and at the time of his death no man stood any higher in public esteem than did he.

DAVIS, Thaddeus G., who ranks with others of the Davis family, among the progressive men of Winnebago County, both as a farmer and as a citizen, was born in Guilford Township, March 15, 1863, a son of Thaddeus and Mary A. (McClary) Davis, and grandson of Thaddeus and Catherine (Kirkland) Davis.

Brought up on the Davis homestead his grandfather had bought when the family was established in Winnebago County in 1839, Thaddeus G. Davis learned to be a farmer and was educated in the schools of the district. He remained with his parents until 1886, and then for a year was a clerk in a general store at Stevenson, Mich., but returned to Guilford Township. In March, 1889, he invested in thirty-three acres of his father's farm, upon which he erected a substantial residence, the necessary barns and other outbuildings, and made various similar improvements. In the fall of 1914 he added sixty acres to his holdings, which had belonged to the homestead, and now has ninety-three acres of as fine land as can be found in Guilford Township. He also owns forty acres adjoining his farm, which is located in Belvidere Township, Boone County.

On June 20, 1888, Mr. Davis was married to Mary E. Hart, born in Guilford Township, in 1866, a daughter of August F. and Nancy (Newton) Hart. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have two children, namely: Ruth A. and Gladys M. Substantial, reliable and industrious, Mr. Davis has established himself in his community, and while his farm and home interests absorb the greater portion of his time, he can be depended upon to support those measures which in his judgment will work out for the ultimate benefit of the majority.

DAY, Mark, whose experiments along agricultural lines have resulted in the introduction into



John A. Stiles,

this section of the state of some new methods of farming, is one of the substantial farmers of Rockford Township. He was born at Essex, Chittendon County, Vt., November 28, 1839, a son of Childs and Mahala (Collins) Day, natives of Vermont and New Hampshire. They were farming people, who died in Vermont. They had the following children: Edwin, who died at Santa Rosa, Cal.; Ann, who has always resided with her brother Mark; Oscar, who lives at Spearfish, Okla.; Thaddeus, who was blind, resided with his brother Mark until his death in 1910; Frances, who married Josiah Rugg, died at Omaha, Neb.; Cornelius, who died at Rockford, Ill.; Henry, who died while serving in the Union army during the Civil war; Lucius, who died at Rockford in 1911, leaving a widow; Mark, who was the eighth child; Mary, who married John Lyon, died at Colchester, Vt.; and Frank, who died at the age of six years.

Mark Day enlisted in August, 1863, in Company D, Thirteenth Vermont Volunteer Infantry, for service during the Civil war. He served in the Army of the Potomac, and participated in the battle of Gettysburg, and other engagements. During that famous battle, he was stationed at the left of what is known as the "bloody angle," and saw some terrible fighting. He received his honorable discharge August 20, 1864, at the expiration of his time as he only had enlisted for nine months.

After his military experience was over, he returned to his old home in Vermont, but in 1865 came to Rockford, Ill., buying 160 acres of land just west of the city from his brother Edwin, who is now deceased. Until 1894 Mr. Day operated the entire property, but in that year rented out all but five acres of it. This portion he devotes to gardening, finding enjoyment and diversion in so doing. In 1909 he began the culture of alfalfa, as an experiment, and was so successful that others followed his example, he being the first to try growing it in his locality.

On September 10, 1874, Mr. Day was married to Mary W. Winch, born in Aurora, N. Y., March 1, 1849, a daughter of Walter and Rose C. (Campbell) Winch. In 1875 Mr. and Mrs. Winch moved to San Francisco, Cal., where they died. Mr. and Mrs. Day have one son, Herbert W., who is an electrician and mechanical engineer, of Boston, Mass. He married a Miss Hutchinson. Mrs. Day died September 12, 1913. Mr. Day belongs to the Christian Union Church. He belongs to Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R., and the B. P. O. E. No. 42. In addition to his other interests, Mr. Day is vice president of the West End Furniture Company of Rockford, and is worthy of the confidence placed in him by his business associates and others.

DE COTO, Ellis H., one of the progressive men of Winnebago County, who comes of an old and honored family of this part of the state, was born in this county, February 16, 1881. He is a son of Henry and Elsie (Swift) De Coto. Henry De Coto was born November 19, 1858, and his wife was born in 1857. Their children were as

follows: Edgar and Edwin, twins; Ethel, who is employed in the Register-Gazette office, Rockford; Okie, deceased; Elbert C. and Ellis H.

Ellis H. De Coto was reared in his native county where he attended the public schools. His business experience has been gained as a farmer, and he is now profitably engaged as such in Pecatonica Township. On June 4, 1913, Mr. De Coto married Miss Eda Rapean, born in Winnebago County, September 22, 1894, but her parents are natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. De Coto have two children: Lila M., who was born March 4, 1914, and Neva, who was born July 10, 1915. In politics Mr. De Coto is a Republican. His religious connections are with the Methodist Church. A young man of enterprise, he is discharging his duties as a citizen and has won the confidence of those with whom he is associated.

DEMAS, Gust, proprietor of the Palace pool, billiard and cigar store, at No. 316 W. State street, Rockford, is giving to the people of this city a place where they can enjoy playing pool and billiards amid wholesome surroundings. He was born in the old city of Athens, Greece, where both parents were also born and both died in Greece. The father was a priest of the Greek Church.

In 1893 Gust Demas, being ambitious, left his native city, and coming to the United States located at Chicago, Ill., and for a number of years he was there engaged in the same line of business as he is at present, being then at No. 1521 Milwaukee avenue. After building up an excellent business, he decided to make a change and sold and came to Rockford, where he managed a confectionery store for Jimmie Panagakaix at No. 124 W. State street for two years. Mr. Demas then established his present business, on November 10, 1914, and met with a ready patronage. His conduct of his concern is such as to reflect credit upon him and insure him continued patronage. In politics he is a Republican. Courteous, hard working and thrifty, Mr. Demas sets an example of business efficiency to others that they might well follow, and his success proves that America offers excellent opportunities to foreign as well as native born men, if they are willing to take advantage of them in the right way.

DENNETT, George H. After some years of retirement from business, during which period he continued to reside at Rockford, the late George H. Dennett passed away, leaving an enviable record of honorable business achievement and of useful citizenship. He was born at Rochester, N. H., May 8, 1827, a son of Charles and Abigail (Ham) Dennett. His maternal grandfather was a captain in the Revolutionary war.

Charles Dennett, father of George H. Dennett, was born at Barnstead, N. H., September 28, 1788, but moved to Rochester, N. H., where he worked as a cabinetmaker. When forty-one years old he abandoned his trade, in which he

was an expert, as machinery made goods came into the market, and became a surveyor and also was a lawyer. He was also prominent along other lines, and was the first man to found a savings bank, at Barnstead, N. H. A Mason, he held several offices in his lodge, including that of master, was also an Odd Fellow and served that order as secretary for twenty-one years. In politics he was a Republican after the formation of that party, and the Methodist church held his religious membership. His death occurred March 4, 1867, when he was seventy-eight years old. His wife died September 24, 1876, when she was eighty-four years old.

George H. Dennett spent his boyhood at Rochester, N. H., where he attended school, and afterward was a clerk for six years, and then went to Dover, N. H., and clerked for two years, when he established himself in a dry goods business of his own, and operated it at Dover for two years. Leaving Dover, he returned to Rochester and bought the business of his former employer, which he conducted for six years. In 1855, realizing as an astute business man that Rockford, Ill., had a fine future, he moved to this city and opened a dry goods establishment on the present site of King & Andrews' hardware store, and conducted it there for eighteen months. He then rented the first business location in the Metropolitan block, and in it conducted his store for forty years, subsequently purchasing the building. In 1896 he sold his stock, and lived afterward in retirement until his death, September 11, 1915.

On December 3, 1853, Mr. Dennett was married at Rochester, N. H., to Miss Climenia Kelley, a daughter of Steplnas and Abigail (Moore) Kelley. The Kelley family came of New Hampshire stock. Mrs. Dennett was born at Chichester in that state, June 25, 1830. There Mr. Kelley kept the first temperance hotel and also conducted a dry goods establishment. He died in 1840, at the age of thirty-two years, at Concord, N. H. Mrs. Kelley survived her husband and later married Jacob H. Ela, who was editor of a newspaper and later became a member of Congress from New Hampshire, and died at Washington, D. C., in 1883. Mrs. Ela died in 1879, aged seventy years. Mrs. Dennett's grandfather, Dr. Amasa Kelley, was born in Amesbury, Mass., more than half a century before her birth. Her maternal great-grandfather was Captain Page, a Revolutionary soldier.

Mr. Dennett commanded universal respect for his uprightness in business and honesty of purpose in everything he undertook. When he retired his customers and his competitors were sorry to lose him from the commercial field. The family residence is at No. 428 North First street.

DE PUY, Hulbert R. Although he was not long a resident of Rockford, the late Hulbert R. De Puy was well known throughout this district, and left behind him a family that is highly honored by the people here. Mr. De Puy was a man whose name needs no laudation, his actions speaking for his character, and he died

as he lived, an earnest Christian and honorable business man. He was born at Onondaga, N. Y., March 27, 1847, a son of Horace and Caroline (Mitchell) De Puy, natives of New York.

Growing up in his native place, Hulbert De Puy attended the public schools and lived with his parents until 1864, when he came as far west as Chicago. Although still a lad, he enlisted in that city for service during the Civil war, in Company C, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged at the close of hostilities. He then joined his mother who was residing at Joliet, Ill., and began teaming. Later he was employed on the C. & A. Railroad as fireman and engineer, and subsequently was an engineer on the C. & N. W. Railroad. For eleven years he made his home at Belvidere, Ill., but in 1887 moved to Rockford, where he died December 9, 1889. His widow has since made her home at Rockford and has a beautiful residence on Cumberland street.

On September 24, 1884, Mr. De Puy was married to Myra C. Nutting, born in Clinton County, N. Y., a daughter of V. P. and Charlotte B. (Reynolds) Nutting, natives of New Hampshire, and Essex County, N. Y. Mrs. De Puy was the widow of Orrin Meader, born at Plattsburg, N. Y., and had one daughter by her first marriage, Mattie, who is Mrs. John W. Day of Plainfield, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. De Puy had one daughter, Bessie E., who is Mrs. Elof L. Braid of Rockford. Mr. Braid is an inspector of the Ingersoll Manufacturing Company, and he and his wife reside with Mrs. De Puy. Mr. De Puy was a Baptist. His fraternal affiliations were with the Masons, and he took pleasure in his association with old comrades at the G. A. R. Post of Belvidere, Ill., to which he belonged. Faithful in all things, he made a fine record for himself, and his company reposed the utmost trust in him, and he never ceased to deserve it.

DERWENT, Edmond. One of the men who for a number of years was an important factor in the business life of Winnebago County, with interests centering at Rockford where he resided, was the late Edmond Derwent. Mr. Derwent was born in England, September 26, 1836, a son of Thomas and Betsey Derwent who in 1841 came to the United States on a sailing vessel, and located at Rochester, N. Y. There for two years the father was engaged in carpenter work, but then moved to Durand Township, this county, where he bought a farm, and built a sawmill, later going into a gristmill business. In 1858 he moved to Rockford, and built a water power flourmill, which he conducted for many years. After selling that plant, he conducted a planing mill, and was thus engaged when he died, in 1892. The mother survived him two years, passing away in 1894.

Edmond Derwent attended the public schools of Winnebago County, and when old enough went into business with his father. When the latter died, Edmond and his two brothers, Thomas and Luther, continued to operate the mill until it was burned in 1912, and they then discontinued

their business. Mr. Derwent died July 2, 1906, firm in the faith of the Christian Union Church of which he was a consistent member. In politics he was a Republican.

On July 5, 1861, Mr. Derwent was married to Adelaide Fleming, born in Washington County, Ohio, December 18, 1842, a daughter of Peter and Betsey Ann (Lackey) Fleming, he born in Washington County, Ohio, December 25, 1817, and she born December 21, 1814. Peter Fleming was a son of Jesse and Elinore (Collins) Fleming, the former of Irish descent. Peter Fleming assisted his father in operating his farm until he was fifteen years old when he went to Newport, Ohio, and there learned the coopering trade which he followed until his marriage, September 23, 1841. His wife was a daughter of Isaac and Hannah (Wright) Lackey, natives of Connecticut and Massachusetts. Isaac Lackey was a soldier of the War of 1812. Mrs. Derwent is descended from the famous Peabody family on both sides of the house.

At an early day, 1842, Peter Fleming moved to Durand Township, Winnebago County, Ill., and resided on a farm he had purchased until February, 1891, when he sold this property and retired, moving to Pecatonica, Ill. After a few years, he came to Rockford, and from the fall of 1893 until February 24, 1894, he and his wife kept house here but after her death on that date, he went to the home of his daughter, at Hinsdale, Ill., where he died August 14, 1903. The children of Peter Fleming and wife were as follows: Mrs. Derwent, who is the eldest; Marietta, who is Mrs. Charles Reddington, of Oakland, Cal.; Anette, who is Mrs. H. B. Farwell, a widow of St. Paul, Minn.; Delight, who married John Frederick, is now a widow residing at Oakland, Cal.; and Alice, who married John Ross, died April 23, 1912.

Mr. and Mrs. Derwent had two children: Stella, who was born February 25, 1864, married Frank McArthur and died September 4, 1913, at Des Moines, Iowa; and Watson E., who was born January 22, 1878, is head of the mail order department of the Kalamazoo Stove Company, having held that position since October, 1903, and prior to that date, from 1896 until 1903, was with Sears, Roebuck & Co., of Chicago. He married Marie Bentine of Milwaukee, Wis.

DERWENT, James E., who belongs to one of the pioneer families of Winnebago County, is widely known and stands high in public regard. He is a substantial farmer, residing on section 35, Durand Township, where he was born, November 22, 1857, a son of William and Elizabeth (Hobson) Derwent, both natives of England. Thomas Derwent, the paternal grandfather, came to the United States with several of his sons, including William, and his brother-in-law, Aaron Haughton, in 1842, and bought extensively in Durand and Pecatonica townships, Winnebago County.

After the death of Thomas Derwent, William Derwent, father of James E. Derwent, bought

the homestead and there he lived until he was sixty-three years old. Having lost his first wife, he married a second time, later moving to another farm in the same neighborhood, owning in all about 270 acres. The mother of James E. Derwent came to America the year following the arrival of William Derwent, and they were married as soon as she joined him although between them they had only a fortune of \$2.50. They had other advantages, however, and lived long and happily. They became the parents of five children as follows: Charles M., who lives at Rockford; Mary Jane, who is the widow of E. S. Garner, of Waverly, Iowa; Alexander, who lives in Durand Township; James E.; and A. E., a physician, who lives at Clinton, Mo. Mrs. Derwent was a member of the Baptist church. She was born September 6, 1819, passing away February 19, 1882. In politics Mr. Derwent was a Republican. He was born November 1, 1821, and died September 9, 1905.

Some time before the father's death James and his brother bought the farm, forty-three acres of which are located in Durand Township, and 187 acres in Pecatonica Township and he has continued to reside on this property. His educational training was obtained in the local schools, and his life has been spent in this neighborhood. Mr. Derwent has carried on general farming and kept blooded horses, importing shires, hackneys, cleveland bays and percherons, and had his own stallions, now having "Bar-num" an American bred percheron stallion. For ten years in succession he won the first premiums at the Winnebago County Fair for the best driving team. He has always enjoyed handling horses and brought stallions here to improve the grade of horses bred in this locality so as to improve the horse market. For a number of years he has also raised Polled Angus cattle.

On March 30, 1886, James E. Derwent was married to Florence Adelle Haughton, a daughter of Thomas D. Haughton, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Derwent have one son, Ralph, who lives in the old home and operates the farm. He married Mabel Bates of Burrill Township.

Formerly Mr. Derwent was a Republican in politics, but has become an independent and votes for the man rather than according to party lines. Fraternally he belongs to the Rockford Order of Elks, No. 64. Since the arrival of the Derwent family in Winnebago County in 1842, its representatives have lived here, and Mr. Derwent is of the third generation, and his son is of the fourth.

DIAMOND, Irwin K., manager of the Diamond & Sons' Grocery Store, at Nos. 936 and 938 Kilbourne avenue, is one of the experienced business men of Rockford, and one who enjoys universal confidence from the public. He was born in Harrison Township, this county, March 2, 1879, a son of George and Ellen (Knight) Diamond. The father was born at Detroit, Mich., in October, 1845, and when one year old was taken to

Chicago by his parents, receiving his educational training in that city. He went into a grocery business with his father, and this association continued for fifteen years, when the latter died at Chicago. George Diamond subsequently came to Harrison Township, and engaged in a grocery business and also in farming. In 1890 he came to Rockford and in 1901 he embarked in a grocery business at No. 922 Kilbourne Avenue, remaining at that location for twelve years. In 1913 he built the present block occupied by the firm of Diamond & Sons. In politics he is a Republican. His religious connection is with the Presbyterian church.

Irwin Diamond spent his boyhood in Harrison Township, and was there educated. On coming to Rockford he became associated with his father in the present grocery enterprise, and has materially assisted in its development, and is numbered among the most capable men in his line. The firm handle a full line of green and staple groceries and meats, and the quality of their goods is unquestioned.

In 1905 Irwin Diamond was married to Miss Georgiana Lawler, a daughter of Peter and Jennie (McGregor) Lawler of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Diamond have one son, Harold L. Mr. Diamond belongs to the Odd Fellows, and takes a deep interest in the affairs of his order. Both he and Mrs. Diamond belong to the Presbyterian Church.

DICKERMAN, E. Burton, whose able administration of affairs as treasurer of New Milford Township for five years resulted in his being elected assessor of the same township in 1914, is one of the substantial farmers of Winnebago County. He was born on his present farm of over 167 acres, in New Milford Township, March 26, 1873, a son of Putnam B. and Emily F. (Peck) Dickerman, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. E. Burton was one of four children born to his parents, the others being: Alfred Grant, Frank I., deceased, and Mary Ellen. Alfred Grant was born January 9, 1867. To improve his health, he has moved to Fort Sumner, N. M. He married Fannie Holdridge. Mary Ellen was born July 25, 1871. She married C. W. Hammond and is living at No. 1003 Morgan street, Rockford, Ill.

On March 25, 1897, E. Burton Dickerman was married to Della Pearl Hurd, born October 1, 1876, a daughter of Cyrus and Mary (Sherman) Hurd, the former born in 1844, died in 1888, and the latter, born in 1845 in New York state, is now living in Florida. Mr. and Mrs. Hurd had the following children: Ernest and Carrol, deceased, Della Pearl, Junetta, Lillian and Adelaide. Mr. and Mrs. Dickerman have had one child, Miriam E. She was born October 10, 1909, and died October 27, 1910, aged one year and seventeen days. Mr. Dickerman is a Republican, and has done yeoman service for his party both as treasurer and assessor of his township and as a private citizen. He and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church of New Milford.

DICKERMAN, Putnam Baily, one of the honored veterans of the Civil war residing in Winnebago County, has long been associated with the agricultural life of New Milford Township. He was born at Jewett, Greene County, N. Y., July 7, 1840, a son of Joel Dickerman and grandson of Joel Dickerman. Joel Dickerman, Sr., who died at the age of eighty years, married Catherine Atwater, born December 21, 1778, died September 6, 1866, aged eighty-one years. They had four children as follows: Amelia, who was the wife of Lucius Pond; Joel, who became the father of Putnam Baily; Worster A., who is deceased; and Catherine, who is the widow of Addison Ramsey.

Joel Dickerman, Jr., was born January 10, 1818. On August 27, 1839, he married Eunice Baily, who died January 3, 1877, the following children having been born of this marriage: Putnam B., who was born July 7, 1840; M. L., who was born June 8, 1843; Emma Jane, who was born October 6, 1846; Mary Humphry, Caroline Amelia and Elizabeth Sanford, all three of whom are deceased; Ella Kate, who was born November 13, 1857; and Cora Alida, who was born March 26, 1860. Joel Dickerman married (second) Helen M. Woodward, at Stillman Valley, Ill.

Putnam B. Dickerman received an excellent education and between the ages of nineteen and twenty-two years taught school. On August 1, 1862, he left the schoolroom to enlist in Company F, One Hundred and Twentieth New York Volunteer Infantry, as a private, was frequently promoted for gallant conduct and at the time of his discharge he was a second lieutenant, being mustered out June 2, 1865. His regiment participated in sixteen battles, and his company was almost wiped out at the battle of Gettysburg, only Mr. Dickerman and two comrades answering roll call the morning after the three days engagement was over, the remainder being dead, wounded or prisoners. As might be expected Mr. Dickerman is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R.

On September 12, 1865, Mr. Dickerman was married at Jewett, Greene County, N. Y., to Miss Emily F. Peck, born September 13, 1841, a daughter of Munson and Mary Peck, both natives of Lexington, N. Y., now known as Jewett. Mrs. Peck was born in 1820 and died in 1904. Mr. Peck is also deceased. The Pecks had three children, namely: Emily F.; Alfred, who died in 1871, at the age of twenty-three years; and Martha J., who married William Hasty, of Berkshire, Mass., died in December, 1913. The following children were born to Putnam B. Dickerman and his wife: Alfred Grant, who was born January 9, 1867, now of Fort Sumner, N. M., married Fannie May Holdridge, March 6, 1890, who was born in 1869, they having three children, Harold Putnam, born October 13, 1895, Lucia Pearl, born February 17, 1900, and Charles Burton, born June 7, 1906; Frank Irwin, who is deceased; Mary Ellen, who was born July 25, 1871, married Christopher W. Hammond, and is now residing at No. 1000 Morgan street, Rock-



Jahre Strand & Family

ford, and they have two children, Elizabeth, who was born May 5, 1901, and Frances, who was born August 17, 1903; and Edward Burton, who was born March 26, 1873, married Miss Della Pearl Hurd, a native of Ohio and they had one child who died in infancy.

Immediately after marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Dickerman came to Rockford, Ill., to visit an uncle, W. A. Dickerman, and liking the locality, they invested in a farm of 350 acres in New Milford Township for which they paid \$30 per acre. In February, 1866, Mr. Dickerman sold one half of this property to his father who, through visiting W. A. Dickerman at Rockford had become acquainted in the locality, and came to the farm at that time. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dickerman are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he is a trustee of the local branch of that denomination. In politics he is a Republican, but has never cared for public honors.

DICKERMAN, Worcester A. A number of the most substantial institutions of Rockford today were organized by the late Worcester A. Dickerman, who was one of the city's most representative men during its formative period. He was born in Greene County, N. Y., September 10, 1820, a son of Joel and Catherine (Atwater) Dickerman, both of whom were of Revolutionary ancestry.

In 1844 Worcester A. Dickerman came to Rockford, Ill., and began his career here in a general store owned by G. A. Sanford. Soon the newcomer was made a partner, the first firm name being W. A. Dickerman & Co. Mr. Dickerman extended his sphere of usefulness by investing in a flax mill which he conducted until it was burned, when he embarked in a banking business under the name of Dickerman, Wheeler & Sanford. On retirement of Mr. Wheeler, Dr. R. P. Lane succeeded him, and the firm name became Lane, Sanford & Co., Mr. Dickerman being the silent partner. This firm did a private banking business until the national banking system was introduced in 1865. The firm was given the second banking charter under the name Second National Bank. Mr. Dickerman was one of the incorporators of the Rockford Insurance Co., and from 1884 to the time of his death served as director and also as examiner in the mercantile department. The Rockford Insurance Co. sold its business to the American Insurance Co., of Newark, N. J., in the spring of 1899. Mr. Dickerman died July 19, 1899, after a life of honorable and useful endeavor.

On December 21, 1847, Mr. Dickerman was married to Caroline Maria Thomas, born at Bethany, N. Y., October 15, 1826, a daughter of Dr. Alden and Eliza (Marsh) Thomas, natives of Woodstock, Vt. They came to Rockford in 1839, by water as far as Chicago, and by stage the remainder of the journey. Dr. Thomas was one of the earliest physicians of Rockford, and claimed lineal descent from John Alden. Mr. and Mrs. Dickerman had two children: Harry W. and Katherine E., both of Rockford. Mrs. Dick-

erman died at her home in Rockford, June 2, 1914.

Mr. Dickerman and his wife were among the founders of Rockford College of which he served for some years as financial agent. From 1849 Mr. and Mrs. Dickerman were faithful members of the Second Congregational church, being among its charter members, and he was a deacon of it for nearly fifty years.

DOBSON, Howard W. The late Howard W. Dobson spent much of his life in Rockford, but passed many years on a farm in Winnebago County. He was born in New Brunswick, April 14, 1836, a son of John and Frances (Dobson) Dobson, natives of New Brunswick and Ireland. In 1844 the parents came to Winnebago County, Ill., and resided on a farm in Burritt Township which the father entered from the government, the greater portion of which was prairie land. He improved this property and resided on it for many years, and on retiring, moved to Rockford. Later he went to Iowa, after selling his interests in Winnebago County, and died in that state. The mother died in Kansas.

Howard W. Dobson bought a farm in Owen Township and operated it, his brother's wife keeping house for him while the brother was serving as a soldier in the Civil war. With his marriage, in 1864, he found added incentive in his work and continued to conduct his farm until 1869, when he rented it and went to Rockford. Although he did not serve any apprenticeship, Mr. Dobson was very handy with tools and did considerable carpenter work at Rockford, several residence properties still standing attesting his skill.

On October 13, 1864, Mr. Dobson was married to Alice Brink, born in Guilford Township, this county, October 13, 1844, a daughter of John and Thankful (Campbell) Brink, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Vermont. The father was one of the first men to locate at Rockford, having come here in a wagon which he drove from New York state in 1835. His death occurred in 1852. As he had lost the mother of his five children in 1848, at his death they were left orphans and were taken by relatives. Mr. and Mrs. Dobson became the parents of the following children: May, who is a teacher in the Rockford High school; John, who resides at Rockford; and Frances, who lives with her mother. Mr. Dobson died June 22, 1909. He was a Republican and served one term in the Rockford city council as alderman from the Seventh Ward. The Second Congregational Church of Rockford held his membership and benefited by his generosity. A man of honesty of character and kindness of heart, Mr. Dobson made many friends and established a reputation for fairness of dealing that was well merited. He will long be remembered.

DODGE, C. J., day engineer at the Barber-Colman Company's plant, is one of the expert men in his line, and one who stands very high in industrial circles. He was born near Massena,

N. Y., on Long Sault Island, St. Lawrence County, September 7, 1869, a son of John and Juliet (Smith) Dodge, both of whom were natives of New York, the father having been born in the same place as his son. He was a farmer all his mature life. He died in 1900, at the age of sixty years, and the mother died in 1895. In politics the father was a Republican.

C. J. Dodge passed his boyhood in his native place and there attended school. He later went to North Troy, Vt., and engaged in a lumber business, operated a sawmill, and was also interested in farming. Subsequently he went to the Dakotas, where he took up a claim, and still later was in Montana for some time. Finally he came to Rockford and there he was employed at the Union foundry as a moulder for a year, leaving to go with the Nelson House as night engineer, then was with the Rockford Glucose factory as night electrician for four years. Mr. Dodge then went to Belvidere, Ill., where he worked in the Eldridge Sewing Machine Company's factory for a year, and then returned to Rockford and worked for two years, under Adolph Krutee, for the Edison Electric Company. The next two years were spent in the car barns as car repairer. All this experience was helpful in developing him into an expert engineer and his appointment as day engineer for the Barber-Colman Company was but logical, as they employ only men of skill.

In 1910 Mr. Dodge was married to Miss Josephine Thompson, a daughter of Nels and Juliet Thompson, and they have three children: Curtis G., Marlowe and Stanley S.. For the past seventeen years Mr. Dodge has been a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He belongs to the Merchants Life Association. For many years his interest has been so closely centered upon his work that he has had no time for public service, but as a man of intelligent foresight he keeps himself well posted on current matters and is not unmindful of local affairs.

DODGE, Lucien B., for many years one of the leading farmers of Roscoe Township, and a man of importance in Winnebago County, was born at Fredonia, N. Y., May 8, 1829, a son of David and Maria (Cole) Dodge. The parents were natives of Massachusetts, and the father died when L. B. Dodge was a year old. The mother later married a Mr. Terrell and they moved to northeastern Pennsylvania, where she died.

Lucien B. Dodge remained in his native state until he attained his majority, but at that time went with his step-brother to Australia, to work in the gold mines. After a year there, he went to Peru, S. A., and spent a year and then returned to the United States for a time, but once more set out on his travels and for some years traveled about the world, during ten years of this time being traveling salesman for a seed company. After his marriage he located on a farm he had bought in Harlem Township, Winnebago County, Ill., and then bought an-

other farm, in Roscoe Township, on which he lived for thirty-five years. He raised garden seeds extensively on his farms in this county. In 1903 he bought a comfortable residence at Roscoe, and retiring lived in it until his death, May 2, 1912, at the age of eighty-three years. His widow survives him and lives at Roscoe. She bore the maiden name of Marie Adams. She is a daughter of Horace and Jennie (Robinson) Adams, both of whom were born in New York state, where they married. Mrs. Adams died at the age of eighty-two years, and Mr. Adams died in 1899, aged eighty-four years.

Mr. and Mrs. Dodge had two children: Horace A., who married Isadora Haight, lives in Virginia, Minn., and they have four children, Helen, who married Arthur Inman and they reside at Duluth, Minn., Isadore, Lucien and Kate; and Alice, who married Kay McCurry, and they have one daughter, Constance. Mr. Dodge belonged to Roscoe Lodge No. 75, A. F. & A. M. For forty years he was a consistent member of the Methodist Church. In politics a Republican, he served as road commissioner for twenty-five years and for a number of years was supervisor of Roscoe Township.

DOUGHERTY, John, who founded a substantial business house at Rockford, gave the city his support and showed enthusiastic confidence in its future, has passed away from the scenes of his former endeavors, but the results of his labors remain and influence the rising generation. He was born on the Isle of Man, January 2, 1835, a son of John and Loretta (Criss) Dougherty, who came to Ohio at an early day, and there became farming people. The mother died in that state.

John Dougherty came to Illinois in 1857, and became a farmer in Ogle County, but in 1865 moved to Rockford and here founded the pump works he conducted until his death in August, 1913. The business is carried on by his sons, who had become active in the concern a few years before they lost their father. He was a consistent member of the Methodist church. In politics he was a Democrat.

In 1861 Mr. Dougherty was married to Minerva C. Beeker, born at Vienna, La Salle County, Ill. November 2, 1840, a daughter of John E. and Orilla (Buck) Beeker, he of New York, and she of Vermont. The Beekers were very early settlers of Illinois, spending some years at Rochelle, where the father died, the mother dying at Rockford some years later. Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty became the parents of the following children: William, who is a contractor of Rockford; Charles, who is associated with his brother in the pump business; Ira, who is a plumber, resides with his mother; Bert, who is the other son engaged in the pump business, and Frank E., who died in infancy.

DOW, Daniel, page 662.

DRAGER, John C., proprietor of the modern and sanitary barber shop at No. 412 E. State

street, Rockford, as well as of the billiard and pool parlors and cigar store at the same address, is one of the energetic and prosperous young business men of this city. He has displayed in all his undertakings the spirit and acumen which have insured his advancement. He was born at Monroe Centre, Ill., November 28, 1885, a son of August and Ernestine (Schumaker) Drager. His father was born in Germany, and his mother in Jefferson, Wis.

Leaving Germany when he was eighteen years old, the father came to the United States and located in Wisconsin, but after a short period moved to Monroe Centre, Ill., and in that vicinity bought eighty acres of land, to which he later added until he had 400 acres. Here he remained until 1897, when he came to Rockford and bought a fine residence at No. 1601 E. State street where he subsequently lived in retirement from business cares. It was in this home that he died November 2, 1902. The mother died June 4, 1912. In politics the father was a Republican. Trinity Lutheran Church of Rockford held his membership.

John C. Drager grew up at Monroe Centre where he commenced his educational training, completing it at Rockford. He then engaged in a painting and decorating business at Rockford for eight years, at the expiration of which time he went into the cigar and billiard business at No. 421 E. State street. After two years occupancy of this location he moved to No. 412 E. State street, and has built up a very large and flourishing business. A young man of excellent family connections, and pleasing personality, he makes and retains many friends, and is held in the highest esteem by all with whom he is associated. He belongs to the Loyal Order of Moose and to the Germania Society.

DROHAN, William J. The prosperity of Winnebago County farmers is proverbial and those of this generation are only living up to the example set them by their forebears. One of the men who has succeeded as an agriculturalist is William J. Drohan of Rockford Township. He was born in Rockford Township, August 8, 1868, a son of Patrick and Mary (O'Brien) Drohan, natives of County Waterford and County Limerick, Ireland, who came to the United States when very young and married and located in Rockford Township. The father died July 16, 1894, and the mother died February 21, 1911. Their children were as follows: Ellen, who died January 17, 1892; Thomas, who lives at Rockford; and William J.

William J. Drohan resided with his parents as long as his father lived, and he received 115 acres of his present farm as his share of the estate. He bought more land and now has 147 acres and has made all the improvements. He raises horses, cattle and hogs, and has made a success of his undertaking.

On January 27, 1904 Mr. Drohan was married to Anna Fitzgerald, born in Rockford Township, a daughter of John Fitzgerald, a native

of Ireland, now of Rockford, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Drohan have no children. St. Mary's Catholic Church holds the membership of both Mr. and Mrs. Drohan. In politics he is independent. A live, progressive man, Mr. Drohan has brought modern methods to bear in his work, and the results justify his action.

DUFEK, Frank. Only the more efficient men rise to have charge over their fellows in any line of work. Especially is this true in piano making, because such skill is required in this line of manufacturing, and one of the men whose merit and efficiency is recognized by the Haddorff Piano Company is Frank Dufek, foreman of the sounding boards department. He was born in Bohemia, March 9, 1870, and was there educated, being given a three years' college course.

Mr. Dufek is a practical piano man and worked at his trade in Paris, in London, and in Austria and Germany, and in 1893 came to the United States. At first he was in Chicago, being employed by the Rise & Hinsey Company, but soon left them for S. L. House with whom he remained for four years. For the following five years he was with Story & Clark, after which he went to Oregon, Ill., and worked for the Schiller Piano Company about three months. In 1902 he came to Rockford and engaged with the Haddorff Piano Company, and was at once made foreman of his present department.

In 1893 Mr. Dufek was married to Mary Wachuta, born in Wisconsin, and their children are as follows: Helen, Frank, George and May. Mr. Dufek is a member of the order of Moose. He is insured in the Central Life Insurance Company. A skilled, industrious workman, he stands very high with his associates and is a substantial man of Rockford, residing at No. 1410 Sixteenth avenue.

DUNN, Elisha Charles, M. D., who for many years was one of the leading physicians of Winnebago County, with residence at No. 819 W. State street, was born at Bethel, N. Y., July 27, 1840, a son of Hiram and Charlotte (Clark) Dunn. Hiram Dunn, the father, was born in Clark County, N. Y., as was the mother, and there they became farming people. Later they went to Sandusky, Ohio, where the father became a ship builder, but upon moving to Battle Creek, Mich., he resumed his farming, and continued to till the soil until his death in 1865. The mother died in Battle Creek, Mich., in 1878, aged seventy-five years.

Elisha Charles Dunn spent his boyhood at Battle Creek, Mich., where he attended school, later entering the university at Ann Arbor, Mich., being graduated from its medical department. He began the practice of medicine at Battle Creek, continuing there for three years, and then took a post-graduate course in a school of surgery at Philadelphia, Pa., having located in Rockford in 1862, where he erected a fine home and became one of the city's substantial resi-

dents. In 1888 he took a course in an electrical college at Cincinnati, Ohio. After some years' practice at Rockford, he began traveling through different states, specializing on chronic diseases. During his later years, he lived at his Rockford home in retirement, and there died March 23, 1914, aged seventy-four years.

Upon one occasion while abroad, Dr. Dunn was made a member of the Villers Lodge No. 1194, A. F. & A. M., of London, England, in 1875, at the time that Edward VII., then Prince of Wales, was worshipful master, and up to his death Dr. Dunn treasured his Masonic apron given him by the Prince. This apron is now the property of his grandson, Charles T. Hamlyn. Upon his return to the United States, Dr. Dunn advanced in Masonry, becoming a Knight Templar, and a Shriner. He also belonged to the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. In religious matters, he was a Methodist.

Dr. Dunn was married in Marshall, Mich., to Carrie M. Etts, born March 8, 1840, and they became the parents of two children, namely: Aeola Myrta and James M. The former, who was born August 17, 1864, married Richard P. Hamlyn, November 25, 1886, born February 1, 1856, at London, Ontario, Canada, but came to Rockford November 25, 1876, and later embarked in a meat business in this city. He and his wife have one son, Charles T., who was born May 10, 1888, was graduated from St. John's Military Academy at Delafield, Wis., in 1907. On May 12, 1914, he married Dorothy Russell Dinsmore, of Kansas City, Mo., and they have one daughter, Marguerite Dunn Hamlyn, who was born July 9, 1915. Mr. Hamlyn is a thirty-second degree Mason. James M. Dunn was born December 25, 1867, and is a dealer in hats on Main street, Rockford. He married Miss Mildred Prince of Detroit, Mich. Mrs. Dunn died in Rockford, May 2, 1893. She was an artist and studied under Prof. Robertson of Rockford. She painted in oil life size pictures of Dr. Dunn and herself and many others that are very valuable especially to the family now that she is deceased. Dr. Dunn circled the globe with Dr. J. M. Peebles, now of California, then American consul to Turkey. Dr. Dunn practiced in New Zealand, and in Melbourne, Australia, for nearly one year, but he visited and lectured in many other places. He personally met Queen Victoria in London and has a family picture of her that she gave him. He lectured in the Prince Albert Hall in London.

DUNN, Thomas, Jr., a reliable druggist of Rockford, whose pharmaceutical knowledge is generally recognized, is conveniently located for business purposes at No. 202 W. State street. He was born in Cornwall, England, June 20, 1870, a son of Thomas and Grace (Ham) Dunn. Thomas Dunn and wife were born at Leicester, England, and they came to the United States in 1882. Locating at Chicago, the father became associated with the John V. Farwell Company, in the wholesale dry goods business, and maintained this connection for thirty-eight years, when he retired. He still makes his

home at Chicago. The mother passed away in 1912, aged sixty-six years. The father belongs to the Odd Fellows, is a member of the Episcopal church, and in politics is a Republican.

Thomas Dunn, Jr., attended school in his native place until thirteen years old, and completed his educational training at Chicago. When he was sixteen years old, he entered upon business life in the employ of the John V. Farwell Company and continued with this concern for sixteen years. He then came to Rockford and embarked in a dry goods and drug business on S. Main street, continuing there for eleven years, when he sold out his dry goods interests, and went to California to recuperate his health. After two years in that state, he returned to Rockford and resumed his drug business, occupying the corner of State and Wyman street, it now being one of the leading drug stores of the city, and he also established a drug store at Danville, Ill. He also associated himself with the Charles S. Kidder Company, a bonding company, and is a director in the Wabash Life Insurance Company, so that his interests are solid and varied.

In July, 1912, Mr. Dunn was united in marriage with Miss Isabelle Laws, a daughter of Alexander and Louise (Hobbs) Laws of Rockford. Mr. Laws is one of the leading contractors of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Dunn have one child, Jack Thomas. Mr. Dunn is a thirty-second degree Mason, a Knight Templar, and a member of the Eastern Star, the Order of Elks, Order of Moose, the National Union, the Sons of St. George and the Germania Society. Mr. Dunn purchased the Emily Dodd residence at No. 619 Ashland avenue, and improved it very materially and here he and Mrs. Dunn maintain their home and entertain their numerous friends.

DWYER, William P., a contractor in the line of steam and gas fixtures, located at No. 424 S. Main street, Rockford, exemplifies in his everyday life the value of expert knowledge and reliable business policies. He was born at Lake Bluff, Ill., January 20, 1870, a son of James and Hannah (O'Keath) Dwyer. The father was born in New York state, and the mother in Ireland. James Dwyer came to Chicago in 1836, accompanying his parents, and after a short stop in that place, settled at Lake Bluff, Ill., where he and his father engaged in farming. After the death of the latter, James Dwyer continued to operate the homestead, and remained on it until 1888, when he moved to Rockford, later living retired in this city on S. Church street, where he died in 1903, aged seventy-nine years. His widow died in 1908, aged sixty-seven years.

William P. Dwyer lived at Lake Bluff until he was twelve years old, and attended the local schools. After coming to Rockford he again attended school until he began working for the Rockford Gas Company, remaining with that concern for a year. He then learned his trade of steam fitter and was with J. M. Kennedy for eight years. In 1909 he assumed charge of Mr.



A. J. Swezey

Kennedy's business at No. 519 W. State street, and remained at that location a year, and then moved to his present one, on S. Main street where he enjoys a very large patronage. Mr. Dwyer carries a full line of hot water and steam fixtures of all kinds, and has one of the largest stores of its class at Rockford.

In 1896 Mr. Dwyer was married at Rockford to Miss Marie Madison, a daughter of Louis and Marie Madison, of Denmark. Mr. and Mrs. Dwyer have four children: Romona, William, Agnes and Thomas. Competent, reliable and honorable, Mr. Dwyer has firmly established himself in the confidence of the people of Rockford and has carried out some very important contracts in his line of work.

EARLY, John, page 665.

EDWARDS, John, page 665.

EDWARDS, Philip F. The mercantile interests of a city like Rockford are of so varied a character that they afford employment to some of its most capable young men and among them is Philip F. Edwards, manager of Hill's Dry Goods Store, at No. 510-12 Seventh street. He was born in Smolan, Sweden, January 20, 1888, a son of Carl and Amelia (Pearson) Edwards. The father and mother were born in Smolan, Sweden, and there married. In that place he conducted a tailoring establishment, as had his father before him, and is still living, but the mother died in 1903. Her people were agriculturists.

Philip F. Edwards spent his boyhood in Sweden, but in 1904 left his native land for the United States, coming direct to Rockford. Here he obtained employment with the Palace Furniture Company, and remained with that concern until he went with the grocery of Norden & Sons, on Ninth street. After two and one-half years, he became a clerk for Mr. Hill, the merchant, who promoted him to his present position, after two years of faithful service. It may thus be judged that he is a very reliable young man. He stands well with all who know him.

In 1913 Mr. Edwards was married to Jennie E. Lundeen, a daughter of Claus and Sophia Lundeen, of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have one child, David Philip. The family residence is at No. 1704 Ninth street. In politics Mr. Edwards is a Republican, but he has never sought any public office. The Swedish Baptist Church holds his membership.

EKLUND, August, whose prosperity has been gained through hard work and honorable methods, conducts a meat market at Rockford and enjoys the confidence of his associates and customers. He was born in Westergötland, Sweden, September 5, 1863, a son of Lars Anderson and Johanna (Anderson) Eklund. The father was born at the same place as his son, in 1829, and this was also the place of birth of the mother. They married there and never

left that neighborhood. The father was a farmer and wagonmaker. He died January 12, 1915, aged eighty-five years, the mother passing away in 1880, aged forty-two years. The maternal grandparents were farming people.

August Eklund was educated in Sweden where he remained until he was twenty-two years old, at which time he came to the United States and located at Rockford, arriving here in 1886. He at once went to work for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, but left shortly to work in the Rockford Chair factory, and after two years there was engaged by the Co-operative Furniture Company and remained with the latter for four and one-half years. Mr. Eklund then embarked in a meat business for himself with a Mr. Rosander at Ninth street and Railroad avenue, and the firm remained at this stand for six months, and then moved to Eleventh street. After a year another change was made, the firm selling, and Mr. Eklund with August Alstrand, John Anderson, John Wollgren and Charles Anderson formed the Swedish Meat and Sausage Company, with plant at 1103 Seventh street. In 1899 the business was sold, and a new company formed at No. 702 Seventh street, where it was continued for three years, when removal was made to the 500 block, but after two years there, another change was made to the present location at No. 620 Seventh street. Here he has remained for seventeen years and has been very successful in business. Mr. Eklund has one of the finest equipped meat markets here in the city, and enjoys a large and valuable patronage. For the past few years he has been one of the directors of the Swedish American National Bank of this city. In politics he is a Republican, and in religious matters he is a member of the Mission Church.

In 1889 Mr. Eklund was married to Miss Anna S. Larson, and they became the parents of the following children: Paul T. and Morris W., who are in business with their father; and Francis, Florence, Mildred and Virginia. Mrs. Eklund is of Swedish birth. Her father was an art basket maker. He died in Sweden in 1888. The widowed mother came to the United States in 1890, locating at Rockford where she died May 11, 1914, aged eighty-six years.

EKSTROM, A. I., proprietor of the Rockford Pattern Works, maker of wood and metal patterns, and one of the leading men in this line of work, resides at No. 1005 S. Third street. He was born in Sweden, May 24, 1873, and there spent his boyhood and received his educational training. In 1889 he came to the United States, and locating at Rockford worked in furniture factories until 1901, and during that period was, for a time, interested in a grocery business. In 1901 he went to Chicago and was in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad shops for about six years. Once more he came to Rockford and for a short time worked as a carpenter, and then resumed his work in furniture factories. Desiring to start a business of his own,

he learned the pattern-making trade, and worked for Redin, Ekstrom & Company for about two years, when once more he returned to the furniture factories. A short time thereafter, he went back to Redin, Ekstrom & Company, and remained with this firm for two years when he engaged with the Rockford Pattern Works, and after two years more was able to realize his ambition to have a concern of his own, and purchased this business in 1914. He makes machine, architectural, ornamental and novelty patterns to order, and has a fine business.

Mr. Ekstrom was married to Mabel Mattoon, born at Rockford, and their children are as follows: Russell L., Francis, May E. and William F. He belongs to the Swedish Mission Church. In politics he is an independent. A man of industrious habits, Mr. Ekstrom has worked hard for what he possesses, and his sterling traits of character give him standing among his associates.

ELLIS, D. H., whose long services in behalf of the agricultural interests of Winnebago County have won for him an enviable reputation as an expert on farming matters, is now one of the honored residents of Rockford. He was born in Ontario, Canada, October 7, 1838, a son of David and Mariah (Spencer) Ellis, natives of Canada, of English descent, and Lower Canada, respectively. In his younger days the father was a blacksmith. In 1845 he came to Owen Township, Winnebago County, Ill., where he bought a farm and operated it until his death about 1848. The mother died about 1852. They had the following children: William, who died in Iowa; Hannah, who was Mrs. J. B. Conklin, died about 1908; Lois, who was Mrs. J. V. Conklin, died while living in Harrison Township; Mary, who was Mrs. Churchill, died at Rockford about 1900; John; D. Henry; George, who resides at Rockton; and Adam, who died at Port Byron, Ill., about 1890.

D. H. Ellis attended the common schools of the county, and after his mother's death lived with his brother-in-law, J. V. Conklin, who owned a farm in Harrison Township, this county. When he was twenty-one years old, Mr. Ellis began working for farmers, but after a year married and rented land which he operated until he enlisted on June 6, 1862, for service in the Civil war, as a private in Company A, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was in Kentucky and in Tennessee, and at Atlanta, and participated in the battles of Perryville, Stone River and Lookout Mountain, and was discharged October 1, 1864, having been a brave and faithful soldier. He was in the hospital at Murphreesboro sick for some time, and later was sent to a hospital in Louisville, Ky., and was then discharged.

On returning home Mr. Ellis rented a farm for a year and then bought a farm of forty-three acres in Harrison Township, but four years later sold it and bought eighty acres in Owen Township. At the expiration of another four years he sold this second property, and

soon thereafter bought 130 acres, and after nine years he sold it and moved to Rockford. A year later he went to Pecatonica, and spent a year, then went to Rock Rapids, Iowa, where he conducted an agricultural implement business. He was engaged in this same line at both Rockford and Pecatonica. Returning to Rockford, he bought a fifteen-acre fruit farm and a fine brick block, at No. 414 Chestnut street, where he resides. He also owns property on W. State street just west of the city limits. In order to pleasantly occupy his spare time he does gardening in the summer.

On October 24, 1860, Mr. Ellis was married to Amanda Burbank, born in Harrison Township, May 14, 1842, a daughter of Eli and Ann Maria (Smith) Burbank, natives of Springfield, Mass., and Delaware. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis became the parents of the following children: Etta, who is the widow of W. H. McBarnes, resides at No. 514 Park avenue, Rockford; Floy, who married Fred Douglas; Ola, who married Earl Peacock, and they have one son, Earl, Jr.; and Burt H., who is janitor of the courthouse and resides at No. 319 S. Court street, married Emma Young, and they have two children, Florence and Ralph H. Mr. Ellis is a Spiritualist. Until 1912 he was a Republican, but then became a Progressive, and Mrs. Ellis shares her husband's political views. For four years Mr. Ellis served as deputy sheriff under Sheriff Joel Burbank. He belongs to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and his wife is a member of the Woman's Relief Corps.

ELLIS, Edward F. W., page 705.

ELLISON, Harry A. There are many men who after experimenting along different lines, find their place in the world in an entirely different avenue from the one in which they started. Such is the case of Harry A. Ellison, whose experience has been somewhat varied, and who is now one of the substantial men of Rockford. This is his native city, for here he was born May 6, 1867, a son of Judson and Hattie (Pratt) Ellison, natives of New York state and Cherry Valley, Ill. They had two children: Minnie, who is deceased; and Harry A.

Harry A. Ellison attended school at Rockford until seventeen years old, when, having shown considerable dramatic talent, he began working for the New York Lyceum Theatre Company, and for two years was an acceptable performer with that organization. Deciding then, however, that he did not fancy a theatrical career for a permanency, he started to work as a mechanic in a watch factory in Rockford, and in 1894 entered a piano manufacturing company, continuing until he became one of its skilled mechanics. He has shown that his judgment was not at fault when he changed his business outlook.

In March, 1898, Mr. Ellison was married to Mary Grandsire, born in Jersey City, N. J., a daughter of Edward A. and Mary (Greene) Grandsire, natives of Paris, France, and Shef-

field, England, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Ellison have one son, Harry, who was born December 6, 1900. In politics, Mr. Ellison is a Republican. He is a member of the Union Fraternity and the Independent Fraternal Order of Owls No. 67, Rockford.

ELLISON, Judson A. While the ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic are thinned each year, this fact only renders more valued those heroes who still remain, and Winnebago County has never been backward in rendering homage to the survivors of the great Civil war. One of these, worthy of all consideration, is Judson A. Ellison of Rockford. He was born at Lyons, Wayne County, N. Y., January 28, 1837, a son of George and Susan (Drake) Ellison, natives of New York state. The mother died in 1839, and for his second wife the father married Anna Wooleaver.

Until he was thirteen years old Judson A. Ellison remained at home, gaining such educational training as the neighborhood schools afforded, but at that time he began working for farmers for \$4 per month. In 1855 he came as far west as Dixon, Ill., making the trip driving a team of horses, and after selling them, he came to Rockford, and worked in a livery stable for a year. He then hired out to James Williams, proprietor of the American House, and was thus employed at the outbreak of the Civil war.

On April 17, 1861, Mr. Ellison enlisted in Company B, Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Captain Nevius commanding, and was assigned to the Western army. After his first enlistment expired, he returned to Rockford and was sent out with A. B. Coon, provost marshal, hunting deserters. After a year Mr. Ellison helped to organize the Sixty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry for the purpose of guarding prisoners at Camp Douglas. This was a three-month regiment. In 1865 Mr. Ellison re-enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and after a year's service was discharged January 16, 1866, at Savannah, Ga., and mustered out at Springfield, Ill., February 9, 1866.

Once more returning to Rockford, Mr. Ellison resumed work at the American House, but six months later began to buy grain for Colonel White, this connection continuing for two years. He was then engaged along various lines until he became a merchant policeman and so continued for five years, when he began working for the Bradley planing mill, sash, door and blind factory, and continued there for three years. For the next two years he worked in the watch factory, when he bought a billiard parlor and conducted it for nine years. Selling it, he became a collector for the Rockford Publishing Company, and held that position for three years, leaving to become a police patrolman and held that position for ten years, retiring then to become a merchant and citizen policeman, which position he held for six years,

and then became a regular member of the police force. Since 1907 he has been city jailor.

In 1862 Mr. Ellison was married to Hattie B. Pratt, born in Cherry Valley Township, a daughter of Seneca Pratt, of New York, who came to this township in 1835. Mr. and Mrs. Ellison became the parents of two children, namely: Minnie B., who married Albert Thompson, is now deceased; and Harry A., who resides at Rockford. Mrs. Ellison died in February, 1902, since which time Mr. Ellison has resided at No. 403 E. State street. In politics he is a Republican. He is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and the Masonic fraternity. His life has been hard in some respects, from the time when he had to walk four miles to school, which was held but three months in the year, until the present when at an age when many are content to live retired, he is faithfully discharging the duties of a public office, and yet he has always been willing to work, and through his industry and reliability, has won friends and supporters.

ELLSWORTH, Charles J., whose grocery at No. 115 Rockton avenue, is one of the best in Rockford and reflects credit upon his ability and business judgment, was born at Manchester, Ogle County, Ill., in a log house on February 9, 1875, a son of Jerome and Catherine (Campbell) Ellsworth. The father was born in Illinois, but the mother was born at Toronto, Canada.

Jerome Ellsworth was reared and educated in his native place, and was married at Belvidere, Ill. After his marriage he conducted the family homestead until the death of his father in 1883, at the age of forty-four years. In politics he was a Republican. He married Catherine Campbell, who came to the United States with her parents who located at Poplar Grove, Ill., and there her father engaged in general merchandising until his death. Mrs. Campbell survives, making her home at Belvidere, Ill., but Mrs. Ellsworth died June 15, 1912. The paternal grandparents of Charles J. Ellsworth were born in Vermont, and after their marriage they located in Boone County, Ill., where they bought land and erected a log house. The paternal grandmother survives.

Charles J. Ellsworth was reared in Boone County, Ill., and was there educated. Until he was twenty years old, he engaged in farming, and then went to Harvard, Ill., where he had charge of the electric light plant, but after three years went back to farming. He conducted the farm of his father-in-law in McHenry County, Ill., for three years. In March, 1896, Mr. Ellsworth came to Rockford where he engaged first with the Forest City Furniture Company, but in a short time went to work for the Rockford & Interurban Railroad Company, and remained with that company from 1896 to 1909. For eight years he was trainmaster and was train dispatcher for some time. Through knowledge of electricity he was given the contract to wire the first vestibule cars on the Rockford-Beloit

Railroad. For two and one-half years he was in the employ of the Aurora, Elgin & Chicago Electric line, commonly called the Third Rail line, and was still later on the line running from Milwaukee to Evanston. In 1912, however, Mr. Ellsworth returned to Rockford. Here he established his present business, which he has built up very satisfactorily. Mr. Ellsworth is proud of the fact that he worked his way up from employment in the railroad shops to positions of trust and responsibility, one of his completed contracts being the installing of the first heating plants in the first cars on the Beloit railway line.

Mr. Ellsworth was married (first) to Miss Helen Hovey, a daughter of Edward Hovey. She died in 1895, aged twenty-two years, leaving two children, namely: Leonard and Burdette. In 1906 Mr. Ellsworth married (second) Miss Winnifred Cleveland. In politics Mr. Ellsworth is a Republican. A sound business man and substantial citizen, Mr. Ellsworth has been a valued addition to every community in which he has lived.

ELVIDGE, Charles R., superintendent of the Rockford Manufacturing Company, and a stockholder, is one of the men who have brought about the present supremacy of Rockford as an industrial center, and he stands well among leading men of his line in this part of the state. He was born at New Milford, Ill., and was educated in the country schools of Winnebago County. Until he was eighteen years old, he found employment for his energies on the home farm but at that time went into a creamery business and operated creameries in Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois, and also had charge of a mining plant in Colorado for about two years. All this varied experience developed his business faculties and fitted him for other things. Returning to Rockford in 1900, he associated himself with the Rockford Desk Company for a year, and in 1901, became engineer for his present company, and in 1912, his services received proper recognition when he was made superintendent.

On February 28, 1895, Mr. Elvidge was married at Rockford, to Mabel Bailey, and they have two children: Grace M. and Lucille C., both of whom reside with their parents at No. 1412 W. State street. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. Although not a member of any religious denomination, Mr. Elvidge supports Grace Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is independent. A man of considerable force of character, Mr. Elvidge has known what he wanted and how to go after it.

EMERSON, Ralph, page 704.

ENOCH, Hiram R., page 646.

ERFFENEYER, W. G., a substantial retired farmer of Rockford, is numbered among the leading men of Winnebago County. He was

born in Germany, November 8, 1840, a son of Ernest and Elsey (Ernestener) Erffeneyer. Both parents were born in Germany, which country they never left, the father dying in 1856 when he was seventy-two years old, and the mother in 1875, aged seventy-six years. Her people were extensive landowners and farmers of Germany. The father carried on cabinetmaking as his life work, but was also interested in farming.

W. G. Erffeneyer was educated in Germany and there learned ore mining and farming. In November, 1860, he came to the United States, landing in New York City, and spent some time in New York state. He then came to Winnebago County, Ill., and on February 15, 1861, became a farm hand in Cherry Valley Township, and for five years worked in that vicinity. For six years he rented land, and then bought 106 acres from a Mr. Benedict, and added to this until he owned 186 acres, and he also owns 320 acres in Clay County, Iowa. In 1905 he moved to Rockford, where he bought a comfortable residence on Hinkley avenue, where he still lives.

In 1872 he was married to Miss Mary Englebben, a daughter of Frederick Englebben, and they have had four children as follows: Olive; Emma, who died in 1893; Ida Burrett, who lives at No. 442 Hinkley avenue, Rockford; and Frank, who lives in New Milford Township. In politics he is a Republican and for eighteen years served as a school director, and for six years was a school trustee. He is a Christian Scientist and is a profound believer in the teachings of his faith. A man of reliability, he is an excellent neighbor and good citizen, and is a valued addition to Rockford.

ERICKSON, Jonas. Rockford has afforded many instances of self made men among its reliable citizens in days past, and one of them who held the esteem of all who were associated with him, was the late Jonas Erickson. He was one of the first settlers of Rockford when it was a wilderness and had but a few log cabins. Mr. Erickson was machine foreman for the old N. C. Thompson Manufacturing Company of Rockford. He had the distinction of being the first of that name to come to Rockford. Mr. Erickson was born in Sonners Tannaker, Smoland, Sweden, May 9, 1823. He was a son of Jonas and Marie Erickson. These parents who were born and died in Sweden, never left their native land.

Jonas Erickson, the younger, passed his boyhood in Sweden where he was educated. In young manhood he organized a military company of which he was made captain. In 1853 he left Sweden for the United States, on a sailing vessel that took fourteen weeks to make the voyage, bringing his family along with him. For the first three years he worked in Elgin, Ill., and then came to Rockford where he obtained employment in various places. During the latter portion of his life, he was foreman for the N. C. Thompson Company where he gave many a poor man employment in turn. Subsequently he retired, thirty years ago, and lived at his resi-



Malinda, B. Smezy,

dence which he owned, No. 304 South Second street, until his death. It is an old landmark. Mr. and Mrs. Erickson lived there sixty years.

In February, 1851, Mr. Erickson was married to Marie Rickerson, a daughter of Joseph and Sarah Rickerson, while he was still living in Sweden.

Mrs. Erickson was born in Kafset, Vilstad, Smoland, Sweden, April 18, 1830. The parents of Mrs. Erickson were both natives of Sweden and never came to the United States. The father died at the age of thirty-five years and the mother at the age of ninety-five years.

Mr. and Mrs. Erickson became the parents of children as follows: John, who is in the manufacturing business in Chicago, married Christine Anderson and their children are Genevieve and Ethel; Andrew, who is foreman at the Emerson-Brantingham Company plant of Rockford, married Matilda Braid and their children are Frederick, William, John, Louis, George, Luella, Gertrude and Edna; Cyrus, who is interested and foreman in the Woodward Governor Company of Rockford; Arthur Lawrence, who is with the Rockford Watch Company, married Minnie Shumway and their child was Vera Shumway Erickson; Simeon Dewey, who is a painter of Rockford; Martha, who was born on the sailing vessel to America and died later in Elgin; Christine, who married Alfred John Lindloff, has two children, Alfred Louis and Lillian Eleanor, both of Chicago; Anna, who married Frank Westfeldt, has three children, Thiedolph, Louis Erickson and Bertha May.

Mr. and Mrs. Erickson were members of the First Lutheran church of Rockford for sixty years. Mr. Erickson was a Republican in politics. His death occurred in May, 1913, and Mrs. Erickson died in June, 1914. In the passing of these two, Rockford lost some of its best people.

ERICKSON, John, secretary and treasurer of the Rockford Cedar Furniture Company, with residence at No. 1120 Sixth avenue, is one of the sound, reliable business men of Rockford. He has risen to his present position through his own efforts and ability. He was born in Sweden, September 24, 1860, and there began his educational training, completing it after his arrival in the United States.

In 1880 John Erickson left his native land and after reaching the United States stopped for a short time at Chicago, then came to Rockford, but later returned to Chicago and spent six years there working for various firms. In 1890 he came back to Rockford and engaged with the Rockford Furniture and Mantel Company, with which he remained until the organization of the Haddorff Piano Company, at which time he became foreman of the finishing department, and was with this concern until the establishment of the Rockford Cedar Furniture Company, in 1911, he being one of the organizers. At that time he was made secretary and treasurer and still holds these offices.

Mr. Erickson was married at Chicago to Hannah Goranson, born in Sweden, and they have

two children: Ella and Edith. Ella married C. E. Johnson and has one son, Robert. Edith married Franklin Eldridge who is now deceased, they having had no children. Mr. Erickson is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America, the John Erickson Lodge, I. O. S., and the Germania and Lyran societies. His religious connection is with Zion Lutheran Church of which he is a consistent member. A man of sound business judgment and unusual ability he has steadily risen and in his present position stands well in his community.

ERIKSON, Abel F., general superintendent of the Forest City Bit & Tool Company of Rockford, is one of the men who has attained to his present position through sheer ability and a determination to win out. He was born in Sweden, January 2, 1870, a son of J. E. Johnson. In 1884, Abel F. Erikson came to the United States, and for four years worked on Illinois farms. He then came to Rockford where he learned the machinist trade in the employ of the Barnes Company, remaining with that concern for three years, and then was with the Ingersol Milling Machine Company for a short period, when he associated himself with the Forest City Bit & Tool Company, and since 1892 has continued with it, rising to his present important position as general superintendent through successive stages. This company turns out all kinds of wood working tools, special and twisted tools. When this business was re-organized in 1900, Mr. Erikson bent all his energies to place it in the front ranks of concerns of its kind, and that he has succeeded beyond any one's expectations, the present conditions prove.

In 1908 Mr. Erikson was married to Nannie Monson a daughter of Hans and Anna (Nelson) Monson, and they had three children, namely: Anita, Edna and John. Mrs. Erikson died December 1, 1913, and is buried in the Rockford Cemetery. Mr. Erikson belongs to the Knights of Pythias. The Lutheran Church holds his membership and profits by his liberality. A man of energy who has always been willing to work steadfastly and hard, he has fully earned his present prosperity and stands high in public esteem.

ERIKSON, Rev. August, pastor of the Swedish Mission church of Rockford and one of the earnest religious workers and teachers of this section, was born in Westergotland, Sweden, April 16, 1868, a son of Erik and Beata (Andreason) Erikson, both of whom were also born in Westergotland. They lived all their lives as farming people. The father died September 3, 1912, and the mother in 1902.

August Erikson lived at his home in Sweden until he was twelve years old when he entered the college at Gathenburg, Sweden, and there spent five useful years. He then entered a commission house at Gathenburg with Frederick Johnson, but after three years left Sweden for the United States, being then twenty years old.

In 1888 he located at Menominee, Mich., and later attended the Evangelical Mission Covenant Seminary, at Minneapolis, Minn., for one year. The school was then transferred to Chicago, but he accepted a call to Ishpeming, Mich., as pastor of the Swedish Mission church there and continued in charge of it for four years, and then he went to the school again and continued his studies for one year. After that he was stationed in Marinette, Wis., for two years. His next charge was at Boston, Mass., and he remained in that city for ten years, and then came to Rockford and took charge of the Swedish Mission church, June 1, 1910, this church having been founded in 1875.

In 1898, at Iron Mountain, Mich., Mr. Erikson was married to Miss Carolina Lofstrom, a daughter of John and Marie (Nelson) Lofstrom of Vermland, Sweden. Her parents came to the United States in 1880, and Mrs. Erikson came in 1888, and located at Norway, Mich., but later the family moved to Iron Mountain, Mich. Mrs. Lofstrom died in 1896 but Mr. Lofstrom still resides there and is engaged in farming. Mr. and Mrs. Erikson are the parents of the following children: Reuben, Enoch, Ruth, Esther, Hannah and David. Mr. Erikson is much beloved by his people and is recognized as an earnest Christian and eloquent preacher.

ERLANDSON, Evan V. Some of the most convenient and beautiful residences and substantial flat buildings of Rockford have been erected by Evan V. Erlandson, whose skill and experience qualifies him particularly well for this kind of work. He was born in Sweden, in February, 1878, a son of John and Christina Erlandson, who came to the United States in 1882, locating in McKean County, Pa., where the father engaged in coal mining. In 1907 they came to Rockford. Their children, all of whom live at Rockford, are as follows: Oscar; Evan V.; Gertrude, who is Mrs. J. R. Johnson; Tinie, who is Mrs. A. M. Olson; and William, Frank and Charles.

Evan V. Erlandson attended the public schools in Pennsylvania, and lived with his parents until 1898. In that year he went to Ridgeway, Pa., where he engaged in carpenter work for seven months, and then came to Rockford where he continued to work at his trade until 1906. In that year he established himself in a contracting business, in partnership with Frank P. Newburg, but this association continued only a year, and since then Mr. Erlandson has been alone. He is busy both summer and winter, and through honest methods has built up a very solid business.

In May, 1904, Mr. Erlandson was married to Hilda Johnson, who was born in Sweden, and their children are as follows: Clifford, Lillian, Alvina and Raymond. Mr. Erlandson belongs to Salem Lutheran church. In politics he is a Republican. Having always made it a policy to live up faithfully to the terms of his contracts, Mr. Erlandson has gained the confidence of the people of the city and vicinity, and is

justly numbered among the leading contractors of the county.

FARB, Axel, whose successful operations as a farmer entitle him to a place among the representative agriculturalists of Winnebago County, was born at Smolan, Sweden, December 3, 1864, a son of Adolph and Louise (Lundberg) Farb, both of whom were natives of Smolan, Sweden, where they were married. The father was a farmer and died in Sweden at the age of seventy-eight years, and the mother, who survived him for a time, at the age of eighty-five years. The paternal grandfather, Magnuss Farb, was also born at Smolan, and he was a cavalryman in the Swedish army, serving during 1808 in the campaign against Russia. Later on in life he was a farmer and a manufacturer of potash, and died in Sweden.

Alex Farb spent his boyhood in Sweden and there was educated. On March 27, 1883, desiring better opportunities, he sailed for the United States, and after arriving at New York City, April 22, he made his way to Buena Vista County, Iowa, near Alta, where he worked as a farm hand for a year. He then came to Winnebago County, Ill., and for a year worked on the farm of L. Powell in Rockford Township. The next year he worked for Frank Morey, and then during the following eighteen months worked for John Anderson, when he rented land and operated it for another year. Giving up his rented forty acres, he moved to Scott Township, Ogle County, Ill., where he rented eighty acres from Austin Fay, and operated it for a year. Mr. Farb then rented and operated a farm during four years in Ogle County, from Woodruff & McGuire. At the expiration of that time he came to Rockford, Ill., and was a cabinetmaker for the Union Furniture Company, for a short time. Once more he returned to farming, moving to the vicinity of Byron, Ogle County, where he rented a farm from Jeffrey Ryan for a year, and then returned to Winnebago County, where he rented a farm of 200 acres in Winnebago Township, from a Mr. McCormickle, for ten years. He then returned to Rockford where he still resides, although he rents and operates a farm of 200 acres, owned by E. P. Lathrup. Mr. Farb has a large herd of Holstein cows which he uses for dairy purposes, and he also raises hogs. His 100 acre farm in Rockford Township is operated by his son. Mr. Farb is a member of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford. In politics he is a Republican. In 1907 Mr. Farb made an interesting trip to Sweden and brought back with him some valuable relics of his native land.

On February 9, 1887, Mr. Farb was married to Anna Celia Peterson, a daughter of Peter and Johanna Peterson, and they became the parents of the following children: Arbid Almer; Joseph W., who died April 9, 1893; Remon, who died December 27, 1894; and Wallace Leonard, who died September 2, 1898. The parents of Mrs. Farb were born in Sweden, where they followed farming, but later came to the

United States, settling at Rockford, Ill., where Mr. Peterson worked in different factories until 1888, when he moved to Marshall County, Kas., to live with his son who was an extensive farmer of that locality. There he died in 1889, aged eighty-three years. The mother of Mrs. Farb died at Winona, Ill.

FARMER, Leon, president and secretary of the Farmer Brothers Rug Works, and sole owner, is one of the best examples Rockford affords of the progress which a self-reliant man may make if he is not afraid of hard work and is willing to save his money and has the judgment to invest it wisely. Leon Farmer was born at Marengo, Ill., but was brought to Rockford when seven years old, and was educated in this city.

From childhood Mr. Farmer showed business aptitude and industry, becoming a carrier of the Morning Star newspaper when only twelve years old. He received one dollar per week for his services. It is interesting to follow his advance from one position to a better one, his progress showing that good principles and industrious habits are very generally recognized and rewarded. He also worked in a cotton mill from 6:15 A. M. to 6:15 P. M. for twenty-five cents per day. The lad felt he had indeed risen in the business world when he was engaged by the Wilkins Hosiery Company, at fifty cents per day, and he continued with that concern for about a year. He then went to work in the card room of the Ziock Mitten and Hosiery Company, for sixty cents per day, and was receiving eighty-five cents per day when he left to go to the Rockford Woolen Mills. At that time he was eighteen years old, and he remained there for two years, working by the piece. At the expiration of that time he went in the wheel room of the Emerson & Burson company, and then became a delivery boy for H. S. Post, the grocer, and later for H. S. Crandle.

In 1898 Mr. Farmer went into the rug business, beginning in a very small way in one room, with a single loom. He was persevering, energetic, industrious and honest and prospered. After several changes, in 1913 he bought his present plant, and now has about 7,000 square feet of floor space for cleaning carpets and making rugs. Mr. Farmer has made a special study of the material used in making fine rugs, and is an expert in his line of business. He was formerly associated with his brothers, but now conducts the business alone, being sole owner. In addition to owning his residence at No. 519 Cherry street, Mr. Farmer owns his plant and a store building at No. 210 Morgan street, and is considered in very comfortable circumstances.

On November 22, 1898, Mr. Farmer was married at Winnebago, Ill., to Rachael A. Two, who was born December 22, 1879, on the farm where she lived until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Farmer have one son, Clarence E., born March

29, 1905. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a Republican. The record of the life of this alert man shows that he never faltered, but always continued in one position until he could obtain one a little better. His success has not come through any outside assistance, but through unremitting, ceaseless labor, and a thrifty and intelligent investment of his money.

FAULKNER, Marshall, a retired farmer of the village of Winnebago, and one of the representative men of the county, was born in Seward Township, this county, October 24, 1857, a son of Samuel and Sophia (Hulett) Faulkner, both natives of England. The father was born in 1833, and came to the United States in 1846, and to Winnebago County the same year. He began working as a farm hand and so continued until his marriage in 1854, at which time he bought a farm of eighty acres in Seward Township. So well did he succeed that his first year's crop was sufficient to finish paying for the land, and he subsequently purchased eighty acres adjoining his first farm. As time went on he added to his possessions until he owned 750 acres in Seward and Winnebago townships, at the time of his death in April, 1895, when he was sixty-two years old. His wife died at the homestead in April, 1908, at the age of seventy-two years. They were the parents of eleven children, seven of whom survive, namely: Edwin; Marshall; Elizabeth, who married William Smith; Calvin; Henry; Irving and Fred.

Marshall Faulkner was reared on the old homestead and spent his life there until his retirement in 1913. In that year he turned over the management of the farm to his youngest son, and located at Winnebago. On February 8, 1880, he married Emeline Hudson, born April 17, 1860, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Margit) Hudson, natives of England, and early settlers of Winnebago County. Mr. and Mrs. Faulkner became the parents of three children, namely: Galvin, who married Lizzie Markum, has one son, Charles; Bessie, who is deceased; and Floyd, who married Eva Dunkley. Mr. Faulkner was a successful farmer, and is a highly respected resident of his native county, where his family is so well known.

FAULKNER, William, one of the prosperous farmers of Winnebago County, has always lived in the county where he was born, May 7, 1856, on Water street, Rockford. He is a son of George and Elizabeth (Colethrop) Faulkner, natives of Bedfordshire, England. These parents came to the United States immediately after their marriage, about eighty years ago, making the trip in the sailing vessel William Anido, that took seven weeks to cross the ocean. During the long voyage Mrs. Faulkner gave birth to a child. When George Faulkner located upon his farm on what is now South Water street, Rockford, the land was held very cheap, he obtaining forty acres in Seward Township in trade for a sow and her litter of pigs.

Here he lived for many years and died in Rockford in 1873.

For over thirty years William Faulkner has resided upon his present farm of fifteen acres, just outside the city limits of Rockford, on which he has made all the present improvements, having one of the most desirable properties in the county. In addition to this farm, he owns ten acres on the corner of Glenwood and Rockton avenues, all being very valuable land. He engages in gardening.

In 1880 Mr. Faulkner was married to Anna Layng, a daughter of Robert and Mary (McCann) Layng. Mrs. Faulkner was born July 26, 1863, at Rockford, where her parents located when they came from Ireland. The father was an Englishman, and the mother was of Scotch descent, but they were married in Ireland.

Mr. and Mrs. Faulkner have had the following children: Minnie, who died at the age of twenty-nine years, married Verne Ellis, and their children were: Jeanette, born September 25, 1903; Holland, born in September, 1905; William, born March 31, 1909, died July 21, 1911. Etta, who was born May 9, 1882, was married October 17, 1914, to Edward O'Brien. George, who was born July 26, 1883. Fannie, who was born May 30, 1885, was married January, 1902, to Bert Maxon, and their children are: Delbert, born in February, 1903; Olive, born in May, 1906; Homer, born in May, 1907. Alice, who was born October 10, 1888, was married June 19, 1915, to Adolph Olson. Oliver, who was born December 18, 1890, was married September 2, 1914, to Vera Anderson. Clara, who was born July 23, 1892. William, who was born October 22, 1893. Arthur, who was born January 12, 1894. Harry, who was born July 13, 1896. Frances, who was born December 8, 1899. Eva, who was born August 12, 1904, and two who died in infancy.

FAUST, Henry E., now deceased, but formerly one of the highly respected and capable contractors of Rockford, was born in Belfonte, Center County, Pa., August 5, 1835, a son of Jacob and Mary (Troy) Faust, both of whom died at that place. After his mother's death, in 1848, Henry E. Faust, lived with various families near his home, and attended school whenever possible. He learned the carpenter trade, in which he became so proficient that he developed into a contractor and builder and finisher. In 1855 he went to Sycamore, Ill., making his home with a sister who had come to that point several years before. Later he went to Forresteron, Ill., and, from there, enlisted in 1864 in Company D, One Hundred and Forty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for service during the Civil war. He was discharged at the close of hostilities, and returned to Forresteron, but about 1866 went to Ashton, Ill., where he built many of the finest houses. In 1891 he came to Rockford where he continued the contracting business until his health failed him and he was forced to retire, and here lived until his death, August 25, 1913.

On June 28, 1865, Mr. Faust was married to Lydia J. Shout, born at Monroeville, Clarion County, Pa., a daughter of Jonathan A. and L. Gertrude (Anrand) Shout, he of New Berlin, Union County, Pa., and she of Buffalo Valley, Union County, Pa. Mr. Shout studied to be a physician and was a Latin and Greek scholar, and among his acquaintances was called a walking encyclopedia, but his eyesight failing him, he was forced to abandon his studies, and he entered the Free Will Baptist ministry. In 1863 he came to Forresteron, Ill., and buying a farm, divided his time between farming and preaching. Still later he went to Shannon, Ill., where he died.

Mr. and Mrs. Faust became the parents of the following children: Clarence C., who died at the age of forty-eight years; L. Blanche, who is Mrs. E. E. Bloomfield, of Los Angeles, Cal.; Ila L., who, with Rose R. and Florence F., live with their mother, and Elizabeth E., who died in 1901, aged twenty years. Mrs. Faust attended the public schools in Pennsylvania and the seminary of Mercer, Pa., and when only fourteen years old, began teaching school, and continued teaching at intervals until her marriage. She is a member of the Woman's Club, and for many years was a member of the Woman's Relief Corps, and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. She is a member of the Second Congregational church as was Mr. Faust. In politics he was a Republican. Fraternally he belonged to the Odd Fellows. For years he was an honored member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R.

FAVOR, Oscar B. When a man has passed from the scene of his former activities, the good that he has accomplished during his life is recognized, and his worth as a man and a citizen remembered. The late Oscar B. Favor is recalled as one of the substantial and honorable men of his neighborhood. He was born in Winnebago County, October 18, 1844, a son of Wadleigh Favor. The latter was born in New Hampshire, in 1806, a son of Moses Favor, a farmer of New Hampshire. Wadleigh Favor went to Canada in 1832, and was employed as manager of a stove foundry for six years. He then came to Rockford, Ill., and soon embarked in farming near the city, taking a claim of eighty acres from the government in Owen Township in 1845. He located upon that tract, moving into a log hut upon the land, with his family. His death occurred September 2, 1889, and his wife died in 1904. Her maiden name was Mary Bryning and they were married in 1842. She was a native of England. In 1855 Wadleigh Favor erected a substantial residence upon his farm, and later added 100 acres to it. He and his wife had the following children: Achsa, who is deceased; Oscar B.; and Walter, who is a druggist of Rockford.

Until his marriage, Oscar B. Favor resided with his parents, and then went on a farm owned by his wife's parents. Here he lived until 1888, when he moved to Rockton, Ill., renting the farm. From January, 1889, until 1893, he held



John League

the office of postmaster at Rockton. During ten successive years he was assessor of Rockton Township, and he also held other township offices. In politics he was Republican, true blue. After coming to Rockton he was engaged in several lines of business, having the first milk route in Rockton, and also handled grain and stock. For three years he was a school trustee and was much interested in educational matters. His death occurred November 25, 1908. He belonged to the Knights of the Globe.

On March 8, 1870, Mr. Favor was married to Mary L. Bligh, born at Racine, Wis., a daughter of Alpha and Elmira H. (Wiard) Bligh, born in Oneida County, N. Y. They came to Rockton Township, Winnebago County, but later rented their farm and moved to Racine, Wis., where they lived a few years and then went to Rock County, Wis. Still later they returned to the Rockton Township farm, where the father died in 1857, and the mother in 1885. Their children were as follows: Adelia, who died at Rockford in 1912, was Mrs. Henry Abbott; Milton, who is deceased; Emily, who was Mrs. George W. Stanton, is deceased; Runyan, who died in 1865 while in California; and Mrs. Favor. Mr. and Mrs. Favor became the parents of one son, Oscar Bligh, who was born October 1, 1877, and died April 22, 1881. Since the death of Mr. Favor, Mrs. Favor has lived in her fine residence at Rockton. Her sister Emily resided with Mr. and Mrs. Favor from 1896 until her death. Mr. Favor was a general favorite with all who knew him, and his death was deeply deplored throughout a wide circle for in it the community lost a fine citizen.

FERDINAND, Charles, who is successfully cultivating his valuable farm in Pecatonica Township, is one of the substantial men of Winnebago County. He came to America from Germany in 1881, first locating in Wisconsin, but after six months left that state for Illinois, and for two and one-half years after his arrival worked by the month for different farmers in Pecatonica Township. Twenty years ago he bought ninety-three acres about five miles northeast of Pecatonica, and has been very successful in business affairs, and his property has increased in value largely because of the excellent improvements he has put on it. The advance made by Mr. Ferdinand is all the more praiseworthy as he had his own way to make in the world and came here saddened by the loss of his parents, their deaths being occasioned by cholera, which raged in his native land just prior to his embarkation for this country. Mr. Ferdinand has a sister who lives in California, and a half brother, John Millar, who lives at Freeport, Ill.

On November 11, 1884, Mr. Ferdinand was married to Miss Mary Hunting, who was born October 23, 1856, in Hanover, Germany, and was brought to this country in August, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand became the parents of the following children: Mrs. Lizzie Strakeljohn, who lives in the village of Winnebago, her husband being a farmer; Fred, who lives in Seward

Township; William, who lives at home; Henry, who lives in Pecatonica Township; Charles and Minnie, who live at home, and Helen, who is deceased. There are five grandchildren in the family, namely: Marie, Alice, Bernard and Bernice (twins), and Dora. Mr. Ferdinand is a staunch Republican. He belongs to the German Lutheran Church. A hard-working man, he has earned all he has through his own efforts and deserves the confidence and respect he enjoys.

FERGUSON, Duncan, page 656.

FERGUSON, William H. Although many years have passed since William H. Ferguson was among the living, his stability of character is not forgotten by his family, and without doubt the example he set of honorable industry was helpful, its rewards being financial independence and the esteem of all who knew him. Mr. Ferguson was born on the road between Canada and the United States, July 8, 1819, a son of Erastus and Lydia (Overton) Ferguson. They made the trip from Canada to Royal Oak, Mich., with ox teams, and there Mr. Ferguson engaged in farming. They were both of Scotch descent.

William H. Ferguson attended the schools of his district, and was reared to a farm life. In young manhood he moved to Paines Point, Ogle County, where he bought 400 acres of prairie land. In 1850 he was married to Mary C. Juvinall, of Illinois, and their children were as follows: Lydia, who died at the age of thirteen years; Julius, who is deceased; Anna, who is Mrs. L. Youngman of Grand Junction, Iowa; Ida, who is deceased; Fred, who resides at Omaha, Neb.; William, who resides at Dana, Iowa; Ella, who is Mrs. James H. Crouse, of Cooper, Iowa; and Edward, who is deceased. On October 9, 1871, Mr. Ferguson was married (second) to Mary R. (Burchfield) (Woodworth) Hurburt, born in Crawford County, Pa., March 26, 1831, a daughter of David and Elsie (Scowden) Burchfield, of Pennsylvania. She had been the widow of Ira D. Woodworth and lived in Crawford County, Pa. Her children were as follows: Anna Bell, who is deceased; Theodore P., of Itasca, Ill., who has two daughters, Ila and Jannette, and one son, Frank. The latter's daughter, Bessie, is of Des Moines, Iowa, who married Frank Coffee. After the death of Mr. Woodworth, his widow married Nelson Hurburt of New York, at Kingston, DeKalb County, Ill., and they lived near Byron, Ogle County, Ill., on a farm. They had one daughter, Bertha, who died at the age of five years.

Three years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson moved from their 400-acre farm in Ogle County and lived retired at Rochelle, Ill., for ten years, and then came to Rockford, where they bought a lot on Grant avenue, and built a modern residence on it, and here Mr. Ferguson died December 18, 1901. Mrs. Ferguson continued to live in this home for three years, and then moved to Catlin street. Four years afterwards she came to her present resi-

dence at No. 610 Union street. For over sixty years Mr. Ferguson was a Methodist, and Mrs. Ferguson has been a Methodist all her mature years. In politics Mr. Ferguson was a Republican, and he served his township as supervisor while living in Ogle County.

FITCH, Edward, who for years was one of the leading agriculturists of Winnebago County, operating on sections 5, 12 and 13, Guilford Township, since March 1, 1916, has resided at Rockford, occupying a residence he purchased at No. 307 S. Third street. He was born at Marion, Ogle County, Ill., February 28, 1867, a son of Julius and Louisa (Liverings) Fitch, born in Saxony and Mecklenberg, Germany, respectively. They came to the United States, he at the age of eighteen years, and she when older, and they met and were married in the vicinity of Rochester, N. Y.

Soon after his arrival in the United States, Julius Fitch went as far west as the Mississippi River, and worked for a time on boats traversing that waterway, but soon returned to New York state. About 1856 he once more made his way westward, and stopping at Rockford, located on the east side of the city. During his first winter at Rockford he made a living for his family by hunting and selling rabbits. In the following spring he went to work as a farm hand, and after a year, he and his brother-in-law took the contract to clear or "grub" a farm owned by a man named William Mulford, in Cherry Valley Township. It was not a money proposition but they were to get the wood in payment. After the land was cleared they put in the first crop and received the harvest from it as payment for breaking the land. As the soil was very fertile, they harvested as high as 100 bushels of oats to the acre. Following this first harvest, they engaged to cultivate the land for one-half the crops and remained with Mr. Mulford for five years. They then moved two miles north of Stillman Valley, in Ogle County, and bought 160 acres of land. This they cultivated for five years, when they sold.

In December, 1869, Julius Fitch returned to Winnebago County and bought the old Miller Hill farm of 145 acres on sections 12 and 13, Guilford Township. In 1878 he purchased eighty acres, in 1890 sixty acres, and, after his removal to Rockford, made an additional purchase of thirteen acres, all adjoining his original purchase. In 1891 he moved to Rockford, where he lived in retirement until his death, December 8, 1904. His wife died December 12, 1903. They were the parents of eight children, six of whom are living, namely: Sarah, who is the wife of Alfred Johnson, resides at Belvidere, Ill.; Ella, who is the wife of Reynolds Reidburn, resides in North Dakota; Ida, who is the wife of John Schaffer, resides at Rockford; Edward; Elizabeth, who is the wife of William C. Hoffman, a farmer of South Dakota; and Bertha, who is the wife of Carl Bliss, resides at Lisbon, S. D.

Edward Fitch was educated in the district and grade schools of Boone County, and has

devoted his life to farming. Until his father went to Rockford, Edward Fitch worked with him, and for the following eight years rented the farm, then bought it, the property then comprising 300 acres, 140 acres of which lies across the line in Boone County, but the 300 acres all join on the county line. In 1906 he bought 160 acres in Ransom County, N. D. He carried on general farming and raised livestock, and has been very successful in his undertakings.

On December 7, 1892, Mr. Fitch was married to Florence M. Davis, born in Guilford Township, a daughter of Jacob and Harriet (Campbell) Davis, and they have four children: Howard J., who was born September 20, 1893, is attending Champaign University; Mabel L., who was born in 1901; Elsie F., who was born in 1903; and Lee Edward, who was born September 8, 1908. In politics Mr. Fitch is a Republican. Industrious and thrifty, Mr. Fitch has put his practical knowledge of farming to excellent use, and was rightly numbered among the leading men of his township. He lived on the home farm for forty-seven years, one of the oldest living residents of Guilford Township, until, as noted above, he removed to Rockford. While the township lost a good citizen, the city gained one.

FITCH, William H., M. D. When the history of Winnebago County medical men is adequately written, it will be found that nowhere is the standard higher nor have the physicians or surgeons elsewhere developed to a greater extent than in this locality. One of these representatives of the noblest of professions is Dr. William H. Fitch of Rockford, who is conveniently located in suite 305 Masonic Temple, while his residence is at No. 849 N. Main street. Dr. Fitch was born in Cherry Valley, Ill., a son of John and Lucy (Sewtelle) Fitch, natives of Massachusetts. The father, a farmer, came to Winnebago County in 1837, and became one of the pioneers of Cherry Valley.

William H. Fitch was educated in the schools of his native place, the preparatory school of Beloit (Wis.) College, and the college itself, being graduated from the latter institution in 1866. He then entered the Chicago Medical College and was graduated therefrom with the degree of M. D. in 1868. For the following two years Dr. Fitch studied in European cities, including Vienna, London and Berlin, and in 1870 returned to his native land to take up a general practice at Rockford, which he has since continued, but in order to pursue some special studies, Dr. Fitch studied for six months more in European cities. He recognizes the value of medical associations and belongs to the Winnebago County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, the American College of Surgeons.

In 1887 Dr. Fitch was married to Katherine Kuntz, of Allegheny, Pa., and they have two children, Katherine L., a charity worker in Chicago; and William K., a mechanical engineer, a graduate of Yale and Madison universities, now at Indianapolis, Ind., having charge of the

office of Draso-Doyle Contracting Company of Pittsburgh. Dr. Fitch is consulting surgeon of the Rockford Hospital, having held that position since the establishment of this institution. Externally he is a member of the Elks. A close student, and a man of ripened experience Dr. Fitch easily ranks among the leading medical men of his county, and stands very high in public esteem.

FITZGERALD, John, one of the highly respected retired farmers of Rockford, was born in County Waterford, Ireland, July 23, 1838, a son of Edward and Bridget (Mounhan) Fitzgerald who died in Ireland. John Fitzgerald spent his boyhood in his native land but did not have many educational advantages. In 1857 he crossed the ocean to Quebec, Canada, and obtained work as a laborer. For some time he was employed at different points in Canada, and then went to New York, later to Philadelphia, and March 15, 1859, arrived at Rockford.

Farming seeming a satisfactory means of livelihood to him, Mr. Fitzgerald worked for farmers in the vicinity of Rockford for three years, and then rented land for eight years in Rockford Township. He then bought a small farm in the same township, and kept adding to it until there now are 123 acres in it. In March, 1909, he retired, and moved to Rockford into the modern residence he had built on Rockton avenue, where he still lives. In 1902, he sold his farm. In 1862 Mr. Fitzgerald enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company A, Ninetieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was in the Department of the Mississippi, a portion of the time in the Fourteenth Army Corps, and the remainder of the time in the Fifteenth Army Corps. In the battle of Missionary Ridge he was wounded by gun shots in both legs and feet. He was honorably discharged July 6, 1865.

On July 11, 1866, Mr. Fitzgerald was married at Rockford to Honora Carney, born in County Kerry, Ireland, a daughter of Patrick and Hannah (Horn) Carney. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald became the parents of the following children: Agnes, who is deceased; Edward, who is of Rockford Township; Mary, who is Mrs. John Shields of Winnebago Township; Mark James, who is of Guilford Township; Anna, who is Mrs. Drohan of Rockford Township; John, who is deceased; Catherine, who is Mrs. James Redmond of Rockford; Margaret, who resides with her parents; Patrick William, who is of Rockford; and Clara, who is Mrs. Edward Kennedy of Rockford. St. Mary's Catholic Church holds his membership. In politics he is a Democrat. Mr. Fitzgerald belongs to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R.

FLOBERG, August Peter. The standing of Winnebago County banks is exceedingly high, and small wonder when the character of the men connected with them is taken into consideration. These men are one and all possessed of those characteristics which make for able financiers and sound business men, and among them none

stands higher than August Peter Floberg, vice-president and cashier of the Manufacturers National Bank of Rockford. Mr. Floberg was born in Sweden, October 6, 1856, a son of Christof and Mary (Johnson) Floberg. When he was twelve years old, Mr. Floberg was brought to America by his mother, and they located at Rockford. Here he attended the public schools until old enough to begin earning his living.

His business career began when he became a messenger for the Peoples Bank, and so reliable did he prove that he was made a bookkeeper of that establishment. For seven years he maintained desirable connections with this institution, and then left to become secretary for the Central Furniture Company. With the organization of the Manufacturers National Bank, at the expiration of his seven years with the last named company, Mr. Floberg became its cashier, and was elected its vice president in 1906, having since held both offices. He is a member of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford, of which he is now a trustee, and he has been its treasurer for twenty-seven consecutive years. He continues to be treasurer of the Central Furniture Company, which he helped to establish, is treasurer of the Mechanics Furniture Company, president of the Excell Manufacturing Company, the Forest City Bit and Tool Company, the Rockford Lathe and Drill Company, is treasurer of the Scandia and Forest City Hardware Company, and is also interested in a number of other concerns, his interest being widespread and important.

On November 17, 1880, Mr. Floberg was married to Augusta S. Ekberg, a daughter of Jonas and Anna Ekberg. They have four children, namely: Adelbert R., who is assistant cashier of the Manufacturers National Bank; Frances E.; Mamie L.; and Fred A., secretary of the Old Colony Chair Company, all of whom are at home, with the exception of the eldest, who married Mildred Tishhauser of Sycamore, Ill., and they have two children—Rowland Adelbert and Arthur Frederick. The Floberg family is one of the most highly respected in Winnebago County.

FORBES, Alexander D., page 706.

FORBES, Walter A., president of the Rockford Malleable Iron Works, and one of the progressive and substantial men of Winnebago County, is a native son of Rockford, having been born in January, 1870, a son of Alexander and Elizabeth (Ostrum) Forbes, natives of Scotland and Schoharie County, N. Y., respectively. The grandparents were Duncan and Jessie (Russell) Forbes, and Abraham and Elizabeth (Warner) Ostrum. After attending the Rockford public schools, Mr. Forbes completed his education at the University of Michigan.

In 1852 Duncan Forbes, grandfather of Walter A. Forbes, established a gray iron foundry and began doing casting in a small way, and this was Rockford's first foundry. Two years later the expansion of the business justified Mr. Forbes in adding stovemaking to the foundry. With associates, in 1862, he began

making malleable iron castings, and this foundry was one of the first to engage in this line of production west of Pittsburgh, Pa. The foundry was operated under the firm name of D. Forbes & Son.

The Forbes family originated in Scotland. The father and son learned their trade in their native land and followed it in various foundries in New York state prior to coming to Winnebago County in 1852.

With the death of the founder in 1871, the son, Alexander D. Forbes, took as his associates G. R. Forbes and W. O. Wormwood. They continued the business under the firm name of the Rockford Malleable Iron Works, but dissolved the partnership in 1878, and the business was continued under the management of A. D. Forbes until 1890. In that year it was incorporated with A. D. Forbes as president, and H. F. Forbes as secretary and treasurer. In 1896, W. A. Forbes was made vice president. Upon the death of A. D. Forbes in 1902, H. F. Forbes was made president, W. A. Forbes vice president, and G. O. Forbes secretary and treasurer. Another change was made in November, 1910, after the death of H. F. Forbes, W. A. Forbes being made president, with G. O. Forbes as secretary and treasurer. The original plant was located on the water power. In 1907, the present plant was completed on Peoples avenue. In 1862 employment was given to twelve moulders and twenty-four other workers. Today 200 moulders and 300 other employes are required to work the plant to its capacity.

In September, 1894, Walter A. Forbes was married to Marie Thompson Perry, of Rockford, a daughter of Seely and Marie (Thompson) Perry. They have two children, namely: Alexander Duncan and Seely Perry. W. A. Forbes belongs to the First Presbyterian Church of Rockford. In politics he is a Republican, and fraternally he belongs to the Rockford Lodge No. 64. B. P. O. E.

H. F. Forbes married Hannah W. Patterson, of Westfield, N. Y., and they had one son, Duncan P. Mrs. H. F. Forbes is deceased.

G. O. Forbes married Elizabeth Barnes, daughter of John and Mary J. Barnes, of Rockford. They have two children, John Alexander, and Constance.

FORT, Clarence E. The life of the average business man would seem, at first glance, to present few items of general interest, or but little material upon which to base an article appealing to the general public. However, if we take into consideration the lessons which may be taught and learned from the career of one who has worked his way steadily into prominence through an appreciation of opportunities and with the possession of but ordinary advantages, it may be found that a sketch of such a man's life may be not without great interest. From work on a Wisconsin farm, through which labor he was able to gain his education, to the position of secretary and general manager of the Flexotile Floor Company, one of Rockford's most important business con-

cerns, is the span which covers the energies of Clarence F. Fort, business man. Opportunities come to each man, but every one has not the perception to recognize them, or, recognizing, the courage to grasp them. Mr. Fort has perceived and he has wrested—therein lies his success, and therein may be found the lesson to be learned from his career.

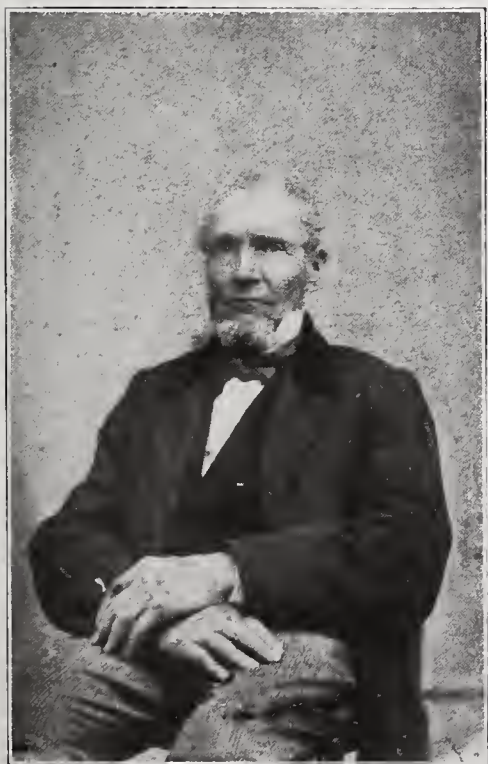
Clarence E. Fort was born in Schaghticoke, on the banks of the Hudson River, in Rensselaer County, N. Y., June 19, 1876. His parents, Henry Beekman and Mary Elizabeth (Elms) Fort, farming people, moved from New York to a farm in southern Wisconsin in 1878, and in 1894 came to Rockford, Ill., to reside with their son, the father dying here in February, 1896, and the mother in February, 1914. In and around Monroe, Green County, Wis., Clarence E. Fort secured a graded and high school education. His parents were in moderate circumstances and the lad, ambitious and energetic, paid his own way through school by doing general work and driving for Dr. William Monroe, a physician of that city.

On September 1, 1892, he came to Rockford, Ill., having determined upon a business career and completed his training by a course in a business college, then accepting a position as stenographer in the office of the Savage & Love Company. There he remained two years, following which he passed a like period in the fire and life insurance business. His next connection was with the Elmore Coal Company, where the young and energetic employe soon acquired an interest in the business and, his confidence growing and the opportunity offering, he eventually became sole owner of this enterprise, the name of which he changed to the C. E. Fort Coal Company. Even with the responsibilities of this business on his hands, his energies were not satisfied, and he cast about in other directions, looking for an opening. This was found when he became certain that Rockford needed a modern, reliable laundry to take care of its demands in that direction, and he built the Sanitary Laundry, which he operated until accepting a satisfactory offer from parties from Beloit, Wis., who have since owned this industry. In October, 1912, Mr. Fort took another step forward, when he became secretary and general manager of the Flexotile Floor Company. He soon found that the duties of these offices demanded his entire attention and he accordingly disposed of his interests in the coal company.

Mr. Fort's military record is embodied in his service as a member of the Wisconsin State Militia, in 1891 and 1892. He was a member of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce, having joined that body at its inception, and is connected with the Rockford Manufacturers and Shippers Association and the Rockford Retail Merchants Association. In 1908 he was made a Mason, and immediately passed through all the bodies to and including the Mystic Shrine, and in 1910 was initiated into the Elks. He belongs also to the insurance orders of Royal League and Royal Arcanum. A Republican from



MR. AND MRS. JOEL M. THOMPSON .



JOEL M. THOMPSON, SR.



EMILY M. THOMPSON

his majority, he still holds fast to the principles of that party. Mr. Fort intends to place his name among the residential builders of Rockford by the erection of a home at No. 1301 Camp avenue, in the near future.

At Rockford, June 23, 1896, Mr. Fort was united in marriage to Miss Florence M. Keal, daughter of James and Elizabeth Keal, of Aurora, Ill., pioneers of western Iowa. Mrs. Fort, because of better educational opportunities to be obtained, made her girlhood home with her aunt and uncle at Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Fort are the parents of two children: Harold Stanton, born May 4, 1899; and Florence Marie, born June 14, 1903.

Few men have in greater degree the confidence of their associates, or a higher standing in business circles. It is not a simple matter, this, of placing oneself firmly in the esteem of men who have fought the battles of commercial and industrial trade and who know the qualities demanded of the efficient soldier in the ranks and the officer at the head, but the qualities developed through fidelity, earnest striving and conscientious integrity, are readily recognized, and inherent talent may not be kept under cover.

FOWLER, Rollin D., one of the substantial retired business men of Rockford, for many years was a potent factor in the industrial life of the city. He stands very high in public confidence and esteem. He was born at Crown Point, Ind., April 28, 1839, a son of Luman A. and Louisa (Cochran) Fowler, natives of Massachusetts and New York state, respectively. They married in 1835, at Detroit, Mich., but a year prior to that the father had secured government land in Lake County, Ind., which county he later assisted in organizing, becoming its first sheriff and holding that office for twenty-eight years. In 1849 he went overland to California, making the trip with ox teams, and spent seven years in that state, but returned to his old home, where he spent the balance of his life.

Rollin D. Fowler attended the public schools of his native state, and in 1856 went to Scott County, Minn., where he spent a year trading with the Indians. He then preempted 160 acres of land near Jordan, in Scott County, and remained there until the fall of 1860, when he returned to his old home. On April 2, 1861, Mr. Fowler was one of the first men in his neighborhood to respond to the president's call for troops for use during the Civil war, and was enrolled a member of Company B, Twentieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, as second lieutenant, for a three-months' service. He later resigned, but on August 1, 1862, re-enlisted in Company A, Seventy-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry as sergeant, and was mustered out July 1, 1865. Mr. Fowler participated in the battles of Lexington, Perryville, Nashville and Stone River, and was captured by the enemy in May, 1863, near Rome, Ga., and was confined for four days in Libby prison, and then trans-

ferred to Belle Isle across the James River, where he remained for ninety days. In the fall of 1863 he had the good fortune to be exchanged.

Returning home after he was mustered out, Mr. Fowler then went into a grocery business at Crown Point, and conducted it for two years, when he went to Minneapolis, Minn., and worked at the trade of a stonemason until 1881. In that year he came to Rockford, and after some time spent working at his trade, he engaged in contracting for laying drain tile, so continuing until 1907, when he retired, now living very comfortably at No. 1030 So. Main street.

On January 31, 1858, Mr. Fowler was married at Jordan, Minn., to Jennie C. Varner, born at Cincinnati, Ohio, a daughter of William Varner. She died at Rochester, Minn., in 1878 and is there buried. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler became the parents of the following children: Josephine B., who lives at St. Louis, Mo.; Charles R., who is an attorney of Minneapolis, Minn.; Elvira C., who was Mrs. Charles Squires, is now deceased; and Ira, who died at Rockford in September, 1911. Mr. Fowler belongs to the Odd Fellows of Orchardville, Wis. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., holds his membership.

FREBERG, Miss Marie N., owner of one of the leading millinery establishments of Rockford, is very conveniently located at No. 514 Seventh street, and is recognized as a lady of unusual artistic ability. She was born at Rockford, September 23, 1882, a daughter of P. J. and Charlotte (Jaspersen) Freberg, natives of Westergotland, Sweden. In 1865 P. J. Freberg came to the United States and located at Rockford, Miss Jaspersen not coming until 1867, and they were married at Rockford and subsequently bought a beautiful home at No. 335 Bremer street, where they still reside. Upon coming to Rockford Mr. Freberg became a cabinetmaker with the Central Furniture Company, and continued with that concern until he retired.

Marie Freberg attended the schools of Rockford, and her natural inclination made her turn towards some line in which she could give expression to her artistic ideas, so she accepted a position with Gust Nordstrom, proprietor of the dry goods and millinery store on South Main street. She remained in his employ for five years, when she went with the dry goods and millinery establishment of Hill & Ekeberg, as manager of the millinery department, and held this responsible position for four years, when Mr. Ekeberg sold to his partner. Miss Freberg then accepted a position with the Taylor Millinery store as trimmer, at Spokane, Wash., and remained a season, then going to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, to spend a season with the Robertson Millinery Company of that place. The next season she was with the wholesale millinery house of Frederick & Nelson, Seattle, Wash., and then returned to Rockford, and became manager of the millinery department of the E. Hassell Millinery Company at No. 411 Seventh street, where she continued for four years, and then went into business for her-

self, April 1, 1911, at No. 514 Seventh street. She has one of the finest millinery establishments in Rockford and numbers among her patrons some of the leading people of the city who depend entirely upon her artistic taste and good judgment.

FREBERG, Oscar L., is one of the valued employes of the Mechanics Furniture Company of Rockford, with residence at No. 617 Seminary street. He was born at Rockford, Ill., November 5, 1874, a son of Peter J. and Charlotte (Jesper-son) Freberg. The father was born in Westergötland, Sweden, but came to the United States in 1869, and locating at Rockford, entered the employ of the Upson & Herrick Furniture Factory, and later was with the Central Furniture Company, being with the latter from 1879 until 1906, when he retired and is now living at No. 335 Bremer street. The mother is also living. The father is a Republican. He belongs to the First Lutheran Church of Rockford. The mother came to the United States in 1871, from Sweden, where she was born.

Oscar L. Freberg was reared and educated at Rockford. His first place of employment was with the Central Furniture Company, and he remained with this concern for two years, and then went with the Mechanics Furniture Company and remained a year. Desiring to take up certain studies, he attended Augustana College at Rock Island, but returned to Rockford when he had completed them, and resumed his connection with the Mechanics Furniture Company. From 1893 until 1903 he continued with this company, and then was engaged with the Schumann Piano Company for eighteen months, when he returned to the Mechanics Furniture Company, where he has since remained, being head carver, and thus is a man of considerable importance with his company.

In 1903 Mr. Freberg was married to Miss Agnes T. Johnson, a daughter of James and Adolphnie Johnson, and they have one living child, Oscar W. A daughter, Evelyn, died April 22, 1911. Mr. Freberg belongs to the Knights and Ladies of Honor, John Erickson Lodge of Svithiod. He is a Republican in his political proclivities. The First Lutheran Church of Rockford holds his membership, and values the interest he takes in its progress. A fine workman, and excellent citizen, Mr. Freberg stands deservedly high among his fellows at Rockford and throughout the county.

FREE, W. C., president of the Free Sewing Machine Company, Rockford, has the distinction of being the executive head of one of the leading sewing machine companies of the country, the Free machines being recognized as being standard machines at popular prices. He was born at Alexander, Ind., March 16, 1868, and there attended not only the public schools but a commercial college as well. Possessing considerable talent, he devoted himself for a time to portrait painting, but discovered that he

possessed in addition what few artists are fortunate enough to have, excellent business judgment, and so he branched out, and in time founded the Chicago Portrait Company and the Chicago Picture Frame Company, building his own plant.

About this time he was led to invest heavily in the Illinois Sewing Machine Company, and on fully recognizing the possibilities of the latter business, he subsequently disposed of his other two concerns and has since then devoted all of his time and attention to the sewing machine industry. In 1910 he incorporated his business as the Free Sewing Machine Company. The plant at Rockford has a capacity of 500 machines per day, and employment is given to 500 people. Not only is Mr. Free the executive head of this large concern, but he is also the inventor and patentee of numerous devices attached to his machines, and his latest model, a cabinet machine, is probably one of the most beautiful on the market today.

Mr. Free was married at Kokomo, Ind., to Mazie Bell. His fraternal affiliations are with the Knights of Pythias, Elks and Masons, and he stands very high in all these orders. In religious faith he is a Methodist, and his local church has every reason to be glad that it has Mr. Free as a member of this congregation, for he is exceedingly generous. A man of many ideas, he has never been content to develop one or two of his talents, but has sought to bring them all into play and has raised himself to a high position among the successful manufacturers of his locality and age.

FREY, W. M., manager of the Butterfield Millinery Company, at No. 309 W. State street, Rockford, sets a pace for others to follow in his good judgment and efficiency in every respect, being regarded as one of the most capable men in his line on the West Side, if not in the city. He was born at Chicago, March 27, 1873, a son of John and Minnie (Heinsath) Frey. The father was born in Germany and the mother at Chicago, the former coming to the United States when he was three years old. His parents located at Dayton, Ohio, where the grandfather of W. M. Frey followed wagon-painting all his life, and died there, as did the grandmother. The father of W. M. Frey left Dayton, Ohio, where he had been educated, and came to Chicago, where he engaged in a meat business at Larrabee and Oak streets, and carried it on until his death, when he was forty-nine years old. The mother survived him for some time. Her parents came to Chicago, from Germany, in early life, and her father, a cabinet-maker, died at No. 138 Townsend street, Chicago, as did her mother.

W. M. Frey was reared and educated at Chicago, and there entered upon his business career as an employe of the Merchants Telegraph Company. Later he entered the millinery business with the Edson Keith Company, and was with this concern for twenty-seven years, and then leaving, came to Rockford. His long and

valuable experience with the Chicago house resulted in his entering into association with Edward Butterfield in the millinery business of which he is manager and a stockholder. This company owns and operates stores at Peoria, Kankakee, Aurora, Belvidere, Ill., Beloit, Madison and Racine, Wis., and Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Their immense connection and wide territory make it possible for them to handle large stocks and offer prices that are acceptable to all and extremely low considering the quality of their goods, and their distinctive styles.

In 1914 Mr. Frey was married to Gertrude Robinson, a daughter of Fred Robinson, an extensive farmer, of Leaf River, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Frey stand very high in social circles.

FRITZ, John A. The business of supplying Rockford with wholesome groceries is one that shows substantial returns, and is engaging the time and attention of some of the most reliable men of the county. One of them is John A. Fritz of No. 411 E. State street. He was born in Smolan, Sweden, August 24, 1872, a son of John and Caroline (Samuelson) Fritz. John Fritz was born in Smolan, Sweden, where he farmed and learned the carpenter trade, and according to the law, gave his country the customary military service, being a corporal in his company. In 1887 he came to the United States and located at Rockford, Ill., where he followed the carpenter trade and also did work as a stone mason as occasion demanded. Both he and his wife survive and make their home at Rockford.

Until he was fourteen years old, John A. Fritz lived in Sweden, and attended school, and then accompanied his parents to Rockford, and here learned the moulder's trade, at the Union Foundry, and later went to work for the Illinois Central Railroad. After six months, however, or in 1901, he entered the employ of Claus Bangstson, grocer on East State street, as a clerk, and here he remained for five years. He then entered into a partnership with Fred Johnson, in a grocery business, on Seventh street, but sold to his partner after two years, and went in with Frederickson & Anderson, as a clerk. After three and one-half years with them, he became a partner of a Mr. Norrlander, incorporated as the Glove Grocery Co. The firm operated two stores, one at No. 622 Seventh street, and the other at No. 411 E. State street. After a few years the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Fritz taking over the E. State street store which he still owns and operates, and controls here a very desirable trade.

In 1896 Mr. Fritz was married to Miss Emma Ekstrom, and they have four children: Harold E., Roland A., Mildred E. and Catherine C. Mr. Fritz is a Republican. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternally and is prominent in the order. Zion Lutheran Church holds his membership and he is liberal in his contributions to it. A hardworking, capable man, Mr. Fritz has also shown much business ability and deserves the prosperity which is his.

FROST, Arthur H., judge of the Circuit court of Winnebago County, was born at St. Johnsbury, Vt., May 12, 1855, a son of Jeremiah and Maria Sophia (Kilborn) Frost. Judge Frost was educated at Rockford, where his boyhood was passed, and from childhood he evidenced a love for his books, and spent all the time he could spare in study and reading. After his admission to the bar, he entered upon an active practice at Rockford. He served as state's attorney from 1892 to 1902, when he was elected to the Circuit bench, where he has since continued, his present term not expiring until 1921. His record as a fearless and efficient prosecutor is only equaled by his work on the bench. In politics he has always been a strong Republican.

On May 17, 1883, Judge Frost was united in marriage with Ida Southgate, who died January 15, 1909, and they had the following children: Bertha, who was born April 18, 1884; Raymond Southgate, who was born December 22, 1885; Arthur H., Jr., who was born April 29, 1891; and Walter Kilborn, who was born February 20, 1896. On October 24, 1911, Judge Frost was married (second) to Mrs. Laura Starr Beal. Fraternally Judge Frost belongs to the Masons, Knights of Pythias and Elks, and stands high in all these orders. He is also a member of the Hamilton Club of Chicago. The family residence is at No. 712 N. Court street, Rockford, where a gracious hospitality is dispensed and from which an influence radiates that is felt throughout the circle in which Judge and Mrs. Frost move. (See page 718.)

FULLER, Chas. E., page 179.

FULLER, Franklin Washington. Some of the most representative men of Winnebago County were those who when their country had need of them, served as soldiers. Many of these veterans of the Civil war have passed from the scenes of their later peaceful activities, one of them being the late Franklin Washington Fuller, formerly a carpenter of Winnebago County. He was born May 19, 1835, in New York, of which state his parents were also natives. He came to Illinois in 1837, and from then on until his death Mr. Fuller was identified with Illinois. In 1862 Franklin Washington Fuller enlisted in Company I, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, as second sergeant, and served until the close of the Civil war. He was wounded in the leg by a piece of shell, but recovered. Not only was he a skilled carpenter, but during his earlier life he taught school acceptably.

On November 22, 1865, Mr. Fuller was married to Miss Mary Kable, who was born in Winnebago County, Ill., November 2, 1838. She has one sister, Mrs. Louise Clark, who lives in California. Mrs. Fuller owned eighty acres of land on section 5, Pecatonica Township.

Mr. Fuller died January 6, 1911. He was one of the last survivors of the Fuller family, which at one time was a well-known one in this county. In politics he was a Republican, but sought to

serve his party in a private rather than public capacity. An upright, hard-working man, he was ever held in high respect by those who knew him.

FURMAN, C. H., junior member of the well known and dependable hardware and sheet metal firm of Weber & Furman, of Rockford, is a man of substance and reliability in his city, and one whose influence has weight among his competitors. He was born at Rockford, October 6, 1887, a son of Wallace H. and Hattie (Blewfield) Furman.

Wallace H. Furman was born in Harlem Township, Winnebago County, while his wife was born at Wemplestown, Ill. When he was four years old Wallace H. Furman was brought to Rockford by his parents and here he was reared, and was educated in the public schools and at Lounsberry Academy, being graduated from the latter institution. Subsequently he engaged in a milk business and remained in it until 1892 when he purchased a farm on the Wolf Grove road and conducted it for a number of years. He then retired to Rockford and later became secretary and treasurer of the Rockford Building Supply Company and still retains that position.

C. H. Furman was reared at Rockford and attended its public schools until he entered upon his business career with the American Insurance Company, with which he remained for eight years. He then formed his present connection with Mr. Weber in the sheet metal and hardware business, at No. 122 N. Church street, and the firm still occupy this location. Both members are men of high principles and excellent business judgment, and have a fine trade.

In 1914 Mr. Furman was married to Miss Ida Higgins, daughter of Thomas and Annie (Scott) Higgins, natives of Winnebago County. Fraternally Mr. Furman is an Elk. Mr. and Mrs. Furman enjoy their beautiful home at No. 1303 W. State street where they often extend to friends kind hospitality.

FURMAN, W. H., secretary and treasurer of the Rockford Builders' Supply Company, at No. 1007 W. State street, Rockford, has a record for upright dealing and honesty of purpose which have won for him the confidence and respect of all with whom he is associated. He was born at Rockford in 1861, a son of Henry and Charlotte (Whitwood) Furman, both of whom reside at Rockford. They were natives of New York state, and the father came to Rockford at an early day, and embarked in a realty business, handling farm lands, later opened up a street which, since 1865, has born his name. He also engaged in a milk business, and was one of the first to engage in that line in the city. After many years of useful activity, he retired from active business life.

W. H. Furman was reared and educated at Rockford, and after leaving school, for a time engaged in farming and assisted his father in the milk business. Later he began work for his

present firm for \$1.75 per day. His ability and faithfulness earned him consecutive promotions, and in time he bought the interest of George Briggs, and was made secretary and treasurer. The company manufactures sash and doors.

In 1886 Mr. Furman was married to Miss Hattie Bluefield, a daughter of Jacob and Rachael Bluefield, natives of New York state who came to Rockford early and settled on a farm. Mr. Bluefield died at Rockford, aged eighty-eight years, and Mrs. Bluefield died in 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Furman have three children: Clarence H., Fay B., and Charles W. Fraternally Mr. Furman is a Modern Woodman. He built a residence at No. 520 N. Avon avenue, and here he and his family have a beautiful home. A man of sound business principles, alert and thorough, Mr. Furman has deservedly risen, and is now numbered among the representative men of Rockford.

GARDNER, Junius S., one of the most prosperous retired farmers of Winnebago County now living at Rockford, was born at Florence, Oneida County, N. Y., May 7, 1855, and comes from English and Hollander stock. His great-grandparents on the paternal side were Richard and Ann (Gardner) Gardner, both born in England, he on June 24, 1753, and she on September, 1753, where they died. His grandparents were Richard and Ann (Palen) Gardner, natives of England, the former born January 24, 1785, and the latter May 10, 1788. They came to the United States in a chartered ship, sailing from Liverpool, in 1831, and were six weeks making the voyage to New York City, where they landed June 10 of that year, and settled at Florence, N. Y. By profession the grandfather was a physician, but never practiced after coming to this country. He brought \$20,000 in gold with him which he invested in Oneida County land, becoming a gentleman farmer and was one of the wealthiest men of his neighborhood. His children were as follows: Peter, who married Margaret Littler; Mary Charlotte, who married Samuel Littler; Ann, who married Joseph Jackson; Jane, who married Richard Littler; Emma, who married John Sliter; Richard, who married Abigail C. Swezey; Joseph, who married Celestine Potts; Elizabeth, who married Junius A. Cowles; James, who married Margaret J. Groat; and Margaret, who married Hiram J. Cowles, all were born in England except Margaret, and are now deceased.

James Gardner, father of Junius S. Gardner, was born in Cheshire, England, August 14, 1828, and was only three years old at the time of the family emigration. He was reared to manhood at Florence, N. Y., where he began his business career as a farmer and merchant and lived there until 1867 when he came to Winnebago County, Ill., and locating at Rockford, made it his home until 1897 when he moved to Westchester, Pa., and there he died April 2, 1908. His wife Margaret J. Groat, a native of Schoharie County, N. Y., born May 7, 1829, died February 10, 1891. They were the parents of



Walt. E. Shipple



Archie B. Shipple

five children as follows: James E., married Elizabeth L. Allen; Cassius M., who married Clara Simpson (second) Jessie Falconer; Junius S.; Margaret E., who married first Duncan McGeachie, and second, W. D. Shoudy; and Phil C., who married Alice Gunther.

Junius S. Gardner was twelve years old when he was brought to Winnebago County in 1867, and he continued his educational training at the Lounsberry Academy at Rockford. His first work was done on a farm in Winnebago Township, owned by an uncle, and later he purchased this property of 189 acres, still owned by him, upon which he lived until 1911 when he retired, and moved to the village of Winnebago. In January, 1915 he moved to Rockford.

On May 3, 1896, Mr. Gardner was married to Ella M. Phelps, who was born January 18, 1864, near Winnebago, Ill., a daughter of Josiah and Mary (Range) Phelps, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively, and early settlers of Winnebago Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner have one son, Junius Raymond, who was born March 12, 1900. Mr. Gardner is one of Winnebago County's leading citizens, and is respected by all who know him. Politically he votes for the man instead of for a party organization.

GARNHART, J. W. An important factor in the civic life of Rockford is the location here of those prosperous men whose life work has been directed along agricultural lines but have now retired, and among them is J. W. Garnhart, of No. 228 Hinkley avenue. He was born in Marion Township, Ogle County, Ill., May 8, 1850, a son of John and Tonisa (Mortz) Garnhart, natives of Northumberland County, Pa., where they were married. Until 1849 the father was engaged in farming in his native county, but then moved to Marion Township, Ogle County, Ill., where he bought 196 acres of land and improved it, erecting the necessary buildings upon it, including a large brick house and fine barn. Here he resided until 1867, when he retired and moved to Rockford, Ill., where he bought a valuable residence on Crosby street. He died in 1876, aged sixty-four years. The mother died on the farm in Ogle County in 1860, aged fifty-four years. John Garnhart was always a general farmer. He was a Republican politically. At the time he came to Ogle County transportation facilities were primitive and he drove all the way from Pennsylvania. The English Lutheran Church held his membership.

J. W. Garnhart was educated in Ogle County, and began his life work on the homestead, but two years later bought 160 acres in Pine Creek Township, Ogle County, and remained on it until 1906, when he moved to Rockford and bought a fine residence at No. 316 Hinkley avenue, which he now rents, having bought another property at No. 228 the same avenue, where he now lives. Mr. Garnhart retains his 160-acre farm in Pine Creek Township, which is one of the most valuable in that locality.

On October 15, 1876, Mr. Garnhart was mar-

ried to Miss Caroline Jones, a daughter of John D. and Barbara (Tilly) Jones. Mr. and Mrs. Garnhart have the following children: Mittie T., who married Fred Tilly, who is in a garage business; Lulu B., who married N. H. Tyman, of Davis Junction, Ill.; and Flancy M., who is at home. In politics Mr. Garnhart is a Republican and has served as a school director and trustee, and for six years was a constable. The Lutheran Church holds his membership.

John D. Jones, father of Mrs. Garnhart, was born near Columbus, Ohio, in 1828, and there educated. He was engaged in farming, as was his father, until 1846, when he came to Pine Creek Township, Ogle County, Ill., where he bought government land to the amount of 160 acres, but later sold it to Mr. Garnhart, and moved to Cherokee, Iowa, where he bought 240 acres of land and spent ten years upon it. He then went to Martin County, Minn., there purchasing a small farm, and lived on it until January 5, 1914, when he died, aged eighty-six years. Mrs. Jones survives and is living with Mr. and Mrs. Garnhart.

GARVER, Daniel Scott, who for many years was one of the factors of importance in the banking life of Forreston, Ill., and whose widow is now a resident of Rockford, was born in Pennsylvania, August 25, 1852, a son of Martin and Sarah A. (Hewett) Garver, natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Forreston, Ill., at a very early day, and entered land from the government. The father died in young manhood, his widow and four children surviving him.

Daniel Scott Garver was educated in the public and a normal school, and quite early in his business career became a banker, being thus engaged at the time of his death, on February 18, 1897. He also owned lands.

On June 5, 1872, Mr. Garver was married at Forreston, Ill., to Lillian Dore, born near Montreal, Canada, a daughter of Franklin and Harriet Louise (Cowlee) Dore, of Granby, Canada, who came to Forreston, Ill., in 1878. There the father of Mrs. Garver became a merchant, and died in 1863, aged thirty-seven years. The mother married (second) Samuel Mitchell, born in Maryland, who is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Dore had five children as follows: Alfred E. and Clarence F., both of whom are deceased; Mrs. Garver; Harriet, who married William Robinson of Oak Park, Ill.; and Stephen, who is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Garver became the parents of the following children: Elizabeth, who is the wife of Frank M. Smith of Rockford; Sarah L., who married W. E. Perrine of Oregon, Ill.; Anna M., who died in 1915; Franklin S., who is in a real estate business, married Ethel Lenord of Rockford; Dorothy C., who is at home; and Eva, who was the oldest of the family, died when eight years old.

After the death of Mr. Garver, Mrs. Garver in 1898 moved to Rockford, and now resides at No. 2108 Harlem boulevard. Mr. Garver was a Lutheran in religious faith. While residing at Forreston, he served as a member of the school

board. He was a man of the highest character, one whose principles were sound and whose acts were founded upon the best conception of Christian citizenship.

GARVER, John C., page 718.

GAYTON, Charles C., one of the progressive young business men of Rockton, has earned the right to a prominent position among the representatives of the best interests of Winnebago County. He was born in Rockton Township, November 27, 1881, a son of George J. and Martha (Starmer) Gayton, natives of Sherbrooke, Canada, and New York state, respectively. They were married at Rockton, Ill., and own land in that neighborhood and at Beloit, Wis. Their children were as follows: George, who lives at Beloit, Wis.; Ida, who is Mrs. F. W. Chase of River Forest, Ill.; Edgar, who lives at Beloit, Wis.; Gertrude, who lives at Seattle, Wash.; Elbert, who lives in Rock County, Wis.; Nellie, who is Mrs. William H. Moore of Rockton, her husband being in partnership with Charles C. Gayton; and John, who was accidentally killed at the age of twenty-eight years.

Until he was twenty years old, Charles C. Gayton remained with his parents, but at that time embarked in a mill and feed business with his brother-in-law, Mr. Moore. Later he went to Beloit, Wis., where he was employed in the Berlin Machine shop as a machinist and was later made night foreman. He is a well educated man, having attended the district schools of Rockton, the Beloit High school, and Beloit Business College. With Mr. Moore he founded the Rockton Electric Company and they furnish light and power for the village of Rockton. The plant runs day and night and steady employment is given to four men. The voltage is a 220 volt circuit. The streets of the village are lighted on each corner with 150 watt lamps suspended over the sidewalks. The company handle also all kinds of farm implements, of international and Moline makes, and deal in flour, feed, hay and grain, at wholesale and retail, and operate their mill, elevator and electric plant, this being one of the leading concerns of Rockton.

Mr. Gayton was married July 7, 1915, to Miss Lila Doherty, Beloit, Wis. The Second Congregational Church of Beloit, Wis., holds his membership. He belongs to the Royal Arch Masons of Rockton, the Sons of Veterans of Beloit, the Eastern Star of Rockton, and the White Shrine of Beloit. In politics he is a Republican. Live, highly trained and understanding the requirements of his business, Mr. Gayton is able to take advantage of opportunities as presented and has made a success of his undertakings.

GAYTON, George Joseph, now living retired in the township of Rockton, was for many years very prominent as an agriculturalist of Winnebago County, and is a man of the highest integrity. He was born in Canada, October 10,

1837, a son of Joseph and Sarah Hannah (Fern) Gayton, the former born at Dunstable, Northampton, England, February 9, 1814, and the latter May 29, 1811. They came to Canada in 1831. The father entered a farm from the Canadian government and cleared it of timber and otherwise improved it. He died February 6, 1847, and the mother died March 19, 1864. Their children were as follows: Thomas, John W., George, Sarah, Mary, Charles and Henry, all of whom are deceased except George. The widowed mother married (second) a Mr. Miller, and had a daughter, Alice, who is the widow of Dr. J. C. Hutchison, of Beloit, Wis.

George Joseph Gayton only attended school for twenty-one days, but nevertheless is a well-informed man. After his father's death he worked on farms for four years, and then went to Troy, N. Y., where he partially learned the stove plate moulding trade. Before this he drove the Troy and Albany express for two seasons. Mr. Gayton then worked as a teamster for different concerns for four years. In 1854 he came to Winnebago County, Ill., and was employed by the month on farms for two years. He and his elder brother, Thomas, then bought a team in partnership, and started farming in Cherry Valley Township. Two years later they went to Newark, Wis., and rented a farm in Rock County for a year. The brother died, and Mr. Gayton started breaking his land with a yoke of oxen, with which he did all his farm work until August, 1864. In that year he enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company H, Forty-second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to duty in Illinois and Kentucky. Until June, 1865, when he was discharged, he was on detached and provost duty and also was employed in guarding government stores.

After being honorably discharged, Mr. Gayton returned home and bought a forty-acre farm near Newark, Wis., and cleared and improved it, selling it in 1868. He then went to Doniphan County, Kas., where his family was taken sick, and his wife and her mother and sister died. In 1869 he returned to Wisconsin and resumed farming and conducted a threshing machine for ten years. In 1872 he moved to Rockton Township, Winnebago County, Ill., and worked a sixty-acre farm on shares, and then bought it and since then has added thirty-eight acres. On this he made many improvements, remodeling the buildings where he did not erect new ones, and for ten years carried on a garden and general seed business and did general farming. He then embarked in the raising of heifer calves, and carried from twelve to thirty-eight cows in his dairy herd. In 1913 he retired, and is enjoying the comforts his industry has provided.

In October, 1859, he was married (first) to Catherine Spencer, born at Kenosha, Wis., a daughter of Joseph and Olive (Welch) Spencer of New York. Mrs. Gayton died in December, 1870. Their children were as follows:

George, who lives at Beloit, Wis., married Nettie Cutts, and they have these children, May, Samuel, Lulu and Grace; Ida, who is Mrs. Frank Chase of River Forest, Ill., has two children, Harold and Carroll; Edgar, who lives at Beloit, Wis., married Celia Holmes, and they have three children, Fred, Lee and Robert; Elbert N., who lives in Rock County, Wis., married Ella Moore, and they have two children, Leroy and Russell; and Gertrude, who lives at Seattle, Wash. In August, 1871, Mr. Gayton married (second) Martha Starmer, born at Orchard Park, N. Y., May 29, 1851, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Briggs) Starmer, born in Southampton, England, and Erie County, N. Y., respectively. By the second marriage there were the following children: William, who died in infancy; Nellie, who is Mrs. W. H. Moore, of Rockton; John, who died in 1906, aged twenty-eight years, married Rose L. Brown, and they had two children, Earl and Darl; and Charles, who lives at Rockton. Mr. Gayton first belonged to the Episcopal church, then united with the Methodist church, and now belongs to the Second Congregational church of Beloit. He is a Republican. The L. H. C. Crane Post No. 54, G. A. R., holds his membership.

GEETING, Grant S. Almost every line of industrial endeavor is represented at Rockford, and for many years its supremacy over neighboring cities has been maintained by its reliable and substantial business men. One of those who was always interested in advancing his community while he improved his own material welfare, was the late Grant S. Geeting. He was born in Ogle County, Ill., March 6, 1876, a son of Simon and Catherine (Foy) (Rife) Geeting, the latter being the widow of Ernest Rife at the time she married Simon Geeting. By her first marriage she had one daughter, Mary, who became Mrs. LaShalle of Pasadena, Cal.

When he was young, Grant S. Geeting attended the public schools of his neighborhood. He began his business career at the age of twenty years when he commenced working by the day. Later he engaged in a butchering business at Forreston, but left it to establish himself in a transfer business. At first he operated on a small scale, but at the time of his death he had three teams and wagons, and controlled a large trade, and was recognized as one of the reliable men in his line.

On October, 28, 1896, Mr. Geeting was married to Mary A. Hiteman, born in Ogle County, Ill., a daughter of Joseph and Matilda (Dovenbarger) Hiteman, residents of Forreston, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Geeting had no children. On October 5, 1909, occurred the accident that caused Mr. Geeting's death. He was accidentally killed by an Illinois Central railroad train. His burial was in White Oak Cemetery, at Forreston. His death was sincerely mourned by his fellow townsmen, who appreciated him as a man of worth. Since his death Mrs. Geeting has continued to reside in her handsome

residence at Rockford. Mr. Geeting was a member of the Lutheran church. He belonged to the Brotherhood of America and to the Yeomen.

GEORGE, Sampson, page 646.

GIFFEN, Alexander, who not only has been one of the substantial mercantile men of Rockford, but also has dealt quite extensively in real estate, is now living in honorable retirement at No. 522 Jefferson street. He was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, September 3, 1836, a son of Andrew and Jane (Howie) Giffen. These parents with their five sons and one daughter landed at New York August 26, 1839, after a voyage of fifty-three days, and went by railroad to Albany, and thence by canal to Buffalo. The remainder of the distance to Chicago was made by the lake boats, and there they took teams and went on to Argyle, Harlem Township, Winnebago County, arriving October 8, 1839. There were but few people there at that time. They became farmers in the locality, taking up 120 acres of government land. They came to Rockford in 1862.

Alexander Giffen attended the Lincoln High school, Rockford, and had as a schoolmate Albert Spaulding, of baseball fame, and Marcus Thayer, and others who later became prominent men. In 1865 Mr. Giffen began his business career by starting a grocery store at 318 East State street, in one-half of a store, the other half being occupied by Erlander & Johnson, a tailor. Eggs came in from the farmers by the bushel, ten to fifteen baskets every day, price ten to twelve cents per dozen. After disposing of his grocery store, in 1868, he conducted a department store in New Milford for three years, then, having disposed of his store in New Milford at a good figure, he returned to Rockford and in 1872 went into partnership with C. J. Roberts, in the business of buying and shipping butter and eggs. At this time butter was all dairy-packed in sixty pound tubs, taking in thirty to forty tubs a day, shipping in car lots to New York and Boston. Eggs he pickled in vats. The vats were built with brick, cemented inside, and were 5x3½ and 4 feet high, holding 40 to 75 gallon of water, some lime, salt and cream of tartar, dipping out the eggs with a tin pail with holes in it. Having sorted, dried and packed 400 cases of eggs, 12,000 dozen, in one car load, in November, 1872, Mr. Giffen started with a car over the North Western and Union Pacific railroads for San Francisco, arriving in fine shape, with none broken. He turned them over to Schroof, Sweeny & Company, wholesale commission merchants, who disposed of them at 35 to 50 cents per dozen. The venture was a profitable one. The freight on the car of eggs was \$586. After returning he went into a grocery and commission business and continued until 1900 and then retired. He owned at one time and another considerable property, but has sold all of it except his residence.

On June 18, 1874, Mr. Giffen was married to Mary A. Watterson, born at Oxford, Ohio, September 5, 1852, a daughter of John and Ann (Dixon) Watterson, he born at Campbelltown, Scotland, January 12, 1812. On August 8, 1846, John Watterson left his native land, and after a stoppage of twelve years at Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1856, came to Winnebago County. Although a tailor by trade, after coming to this county, he engaged in farming. Mr. and Mrs. Giffen became the parents of the following children: Eva Jane, is supervisor of drawing at Highland Park, Ill.; J. Albert, in the postoffice at Phoenix, Arizona, is superintendent of outgoing mail, married Versalia Kipp, and they have one daughter, Jeanette; Lena A. is with the Emerson, Brantingham Company; Buby W., born December 12, 1887, died March 18, 1912, at the age of twenty-four years; and Wilbur A., born June 12, 1891, is managing clerk for the Rockford Electric Company, and is at home. Mr. and Mrs. Giffen are members of the Westminster Presbyterian Church. He has served it as trustee, deacon, elder and clerk of session. In politics he is a Republican.

GILMORE, Frank, who is correctly numbered among the leading agriculturalists of Winnebago County, owns and operates a fine 250-acre farm in Owen Township. He was born in this township June 22, 1858, a son of William and Jane (Mack) Gilmore, the former of whom was born in Scotland in 1828, and came to the United States in young manhood. He located in Vermont where he remained for some years and then came to Rockford, Ill., where he was employed in a number of factories. He later moved to Owen Township where he bought 120 acres of land. This he soon sold and bought the farms now owned by the Crowley boys. He also bought the Jacob Knapp farm of 240 acres and operated both farms for five years. Later he sold the second farm to Michael Crowley, and bought the Charles Stafford farm of 315 acres and conducted it until his death June 8, 1891, when he was sixty-five years old. Politically he was a Republican. His wife came to the United States in young womanhood with an uncle and located near Milwaukee, Wis. Later she came to Rockford, where she now resides.

Frank Gilmore was reared and educated in Rockford and Owen townships, and when old enough rented his father's farm for some years, later inheriting 160 acres at his father's death. On it he carries on general farming, growing alfalfa, and breeding and raising Percheron horses, making a success of his operations.

On January 16, 1889, Mr. Gilmore was married to Miss Julia Peckham, born February 27, 1858, a daughter of Decius Peckham of Rockford, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore are the parents of five children, namely: Grace E., born November 12, 1889; William, born January 25, 1891, married Bula Francis; Nellie A., born April 15, 1893; and Laura Jane, born July 11, 1894, married Everett A. Denney, living at home; and Harold D., born January 19, 1897,

who was drowned in the creek near Byron, Ill., August 27, 1913, when he was sixteen years old. Mr. Gilmore is president of the Burritt Mutual Fire Insurance Company. The Methodist church holds the membership of himself and family. He is a hardworking man and good farmer and his standing is high in his neighborhood. He is independent in politics. He belongs to the M. W. A., the Royal Arcanum and the Grange.

GILMORE, Thomas. It is only occasionally that we find an unassuming but extremely earnest individual who wrests from his daily and often depressing surroundings the victory of a notable accomplishment. We have always with us the poor—those who are incapable of caring for themselves—and the work of caring for these unfortunates is often grim and frequently charged with the tragic. It is true that tender women and generous men periodically bring their cheer, their kind words and their good deeds to bear upon the lives of the inmates of our charitable institutions, but for the superintendent of these institutions to burden himself with the moral responsibility of the unfortunates in his charge, to carefully look after their every interest, to endeavor to lighten their burdens, has been the effort of but few, among whom may be mentioned Thomas Gilmore, overseer of the poor of the town of Rockford, a Civil war hero, and a man who has demonstrated in many positions his capacity as an incumbent of public trust.

Thomas Gilmore was born near Belfast, Ireland, March 20, 1843, and is a son of David and Margaret (Duff) Gilmore, and a grandson of people from Paisley, Scotland, who moved to the vicinity of Belfast, Ireland, where both of Mr. Gilmore's parents were born. His father was a carpenter by trade, an industrious, energetic man, who applied himself to his vocation and found in America, an outlet for his energies. Thomas Gilmore was a child when brought to this country, and his education was secured in the public schools of the state of New York. His first occupation was that of driving horses on the Erie Canal, and he was but nineteen years of age when he joined other patriotic youths in enlisting under the colors of the Union for service in the Civil war. On August 1, 1862, he enrolled as a member of Company I, One Hundred and Seventh New York Volunteer Infantry. With this famous command he fought in the fierce engagement at Antietam, bloody Fredericksburg and the awful Gettysburg, as well as Chancellorsville, and when the Twelfth Corps, of which he was a member, was transferred to the army under the doughty General Hooker, he invaded Tennessee and subsequently fought at Dalton, Resaca and Dallas, Ga. The last named engagement terminated Mr. Gilmore's service as a soldier, for, receiving a serious wound, it was found necessary to amputate his leg, an operation which was performed on the battlefield. He received his honorable discharge at New York City, July 20, 1865.



Jacob M. Wagner



Martha M. Wagner

From New York Mr. Gilmore came to Illinois in 1871. His first location was the town of Harrison, in Winnebago County, where for fifteen years he conducted with some success a general store. While there he gained his first experience as a public officer, and the fact that he remained as town clerk for thirteen years, and for a long period as township treasurer and postmaster of Harrison, speaks well for his integrity and fidelity. When he was elevated to the post of county treasurer of Winnebago County, in November, 1898, he sold his Harrison property and came to Rockford, where he has since resided in his own home at No. 217 Royal avenue. In December, 1910, Mr. Gilmore was elected overseer of the poor of the town of Rockford, a position entailing work of the most responsible character, and one to which only one in whom the utmost confidence is placed is elected. While a strict disciplinarian, having learned the value of discipline while wearing his country's uniform, Mr. Gilmore has won the affection as well as the respect of those who have been placed in his charge, while, as a public officer, his executive ability has conserved the best interests of the town.

In 1864 Mr. Gilmore voted for Abraham Lincoln as a Union soldier, and he has found no reason since to change his political principles. He has never lost interest in his old army friends, and is a valued comrade of G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, Grand Army of the Republic. He is a charter member of the Harrison Camp No. 684, Modern Woodmen of America. He was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church, but at this time is not a member of any congregation, although a generous supporter of all religious movements.

Mr. Gilmore was married at Astoria, Long Island, N. Y., July 4, 1868, to Miss Margaret Hamilton, who was born April 2, 1841, near Belfast, Ireland, daughter of Robert and Jane (Carrol) Hamilton. To this union have been born the following children all of whom are connected with agricultural interests: David Hamilton, born July 16, 1869; Agnes Jane, born January 9, 1871; Chauncey A., born December 25, 1873; Ellen H., born April 30, 1875; Elizabeth M., born December 2, 1880; and Mary A., born April 7, 1882. All are married.

GILMORE, Willis. Few counties have more prosperous agriculturalists than does Winnebago County, and supremacy in this line is almost entirely due to the enterprise of the farmers of this section who appreciate the value of their work and the independence of their calling. One of them is Willis Gilmore of Owen Township. He was born in his present township, April 21, 1865, a son of William and Jane (Mack) Gilmore, pioneers of Owen Township, natives of Scotland, and Germany, respectively. A sketch of these parents appears elsewhere in this work.

Willis Gilmore spent his boyhood on his father's homestead, attended the schools in his

district, and adopted farming for his life work. He has spent his life on his present farm, formerly owned by his father, and he specializes in the breeding and raising of Percheron horses and Chester-White hogs.

On April 17, 1890, Mr. Gilmore was married to Miss Alice Ann Abram, whose parents were natives of England. The parents came to the United States in 1883, locating in Owen Township where the father worked as a stone mason, but later moved to Rockford where he lived until his death, May 3, 1904, the mother having passed away April 20, 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore have one son, Leland S., who was born July 19, 1896, and who now assists his father on the farm. Mr. Gilmore belongs to Lodge No. 51, Modern Woodmen of America, and in politics is a Republican. He is a practical man and well-informed citizen, but has never sought public office. His personal standing among his neighbors and associates entitles him to their respect and esteem.

GINDERS, George H. Winnebago County has made generous returns to those men who have been engaged in operating her fertile acres, and among those who reaped these benefits during his lifetime, was the late George H. Ginders. He was born in Billingsborough, England, in 1836, a son of Henry and Sophia (Bitting) Ginders. The father and mother were born at the same place as their son, and there they married. In 1851 the family came to the United States, and first located in New York state, five years later, however, removal was made to Rockford. Henry Ginders was engaged in several lines of work after locating in this city, and then took up railroad work with the Chicago & Galena division as track foreman and later became division foreman. In the latter part of his life, he moved on a farm of eighty acres, in Scott Township, Ogle County, Ill., which he bought of a Mr. Spofford, and on it he died in 1885, having survived his wife fourteen years. He was a Republican in political faith, and the Methodist Church held his membership.

After a boyhood spent in New York state and at Rockford, Ill., during which period he secured a public school education, George H. Ginders worked with his father on the railroad in the vicinity of Rockford, and later spent one summer at Janesville, Ill. Returning to Winnebago County, he took charge of a section of track of the Northwestern road as foreman, and was so engaged for three years. He then moved on his father's homestead in Ogle County and spent a year. Coming back to Rockford he was in the employ of Thomas Derwent, a miller, for seven years. At the expiration of that time he went on a farm in Winnebago Prairie, owned by James Patrick, where he spent three years and then went to South Bend, Ill., where he was on a farm owned by a Mr. Rodgers for three years. The following three years he was on a farm in New Milford Township. For two years he conducted the Charles Johnson farm in Monroe Township, and then

for four years was on another farm in that vicinity. When his father died Mr. Ginders bought the homestead and spent six years on it. He then returned once more to Rockford and bought a flour and feed business on Seventh street, but after five years, returned to his farm and spent four and one-half years more upon it. He died August 16, 1899, aged sixty-three years. His widow survives him, being eighty years old.

In 1856 Mr. Ginders was married to Miss Mary Peck, a daughter of George and Elizabeth Peck, natives of England, who never came to the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Ginders became the parents of seven children as follows: Elizabeth; George Henry, who died at the age of seventeen months; Ira Edward, who died January 24, 1909; Carie Etta; Will; Lucy; and J. T.

GINDERS, Guy W. Public office and public honors are seldom continuously bestowed upon those who have not earned them through special service, or demonstrated a peculiar fitness for certain duties. Guy W. Ginders of Rockford is a man who has shown his worth in every capacity he has been called upon to fill, and no honor bestowed upon him will be undeserved. As election clerk and as deputy sheriff under Sheriff Young, he proved he was to be trusted, and when the people of his community put him upon the Republican ticket for sheriff, they but voiced the sentiment of the community that in him the county would have an efficient and capable officer.

Guy W. Ginders was born at Rockford, September 3, 1885, a son of I. E. and Margaret (Vaughn) Ginders. The lad was educated in the grade and high schools of Rockford, and at the same time he assisted his father in the livery business the latter had founded in 1881, first opening for the accommodation of the public on E. State street, where the Hess Bros. big store now stands. In 1885 the present building of brick, three stories in height, 130x44 feet, at Nos. 115 and 117 E. State street was built by the elder Mr. Ginders specially for livery purposes, and it has been used as such ever since. When Guy W. Ginders was twenty-one years old, he bought a half interest in the business, and he and his father continued together, until the latter's death January 24, 1910. On February 1, 1913, Guy W. Ginders took Joseph T. Ginders, his uncle, into partnership, and this association now continues. The firm have twenty-three horses, and specialize on funeral work, maintaining connections with six undertakers, and doing business for the county coroner's office. For the past twenty years, the Ginders have held the contract for the county work in this direction. The firm also maintains five hearses, and are prepared to execute all orders promptly and in a dignified manner.

On November 26, 1913, Mr. Ginders was married to Anna E. Andrew, a daughter of John Milton Andrew and Kate (McNeal) Andrew. For three years Mr. Ginders was election clerk,

and served very acceptably under Sheriff Young as one of his deputies. A man of unquestioned bravery, cool deliberation and keen judgment with regard to men and affairs, Mr. Ginders measures up to the highest standards of efficient officials and desirable citizenship.

GLEASMAN, Edwin S. One of the leading business interests of Winnebago County is that conducted by the United States Wheel & Tire Co., at Rockton, of which Edwin S. Gleasman is president. Mr. Gleasman has been a farmer of Rockton Township for a number of years, and since 1900 he has been in an implement business at Rockton, so that he is one of the well known men of this neighborhood. He was born in Owen Township, this county, January 12, 1868, a son of George and Sarah Ann (Lake) Gleasman, natives of Oneida County, N. Y., and Owen Township, respectively. The grandparents, Godfrey Gleasman, a native of Germany, and Hiram and Elizabeth Lake, natives of England, came from Pennsylvania where they had first located, to Owen Township, Winnebago County, in early days, and took up land from the government. Godfrey Gleasman was killed at the battle of Antietam during the Civil war, together with his two brothers, all three being killed by the same exploding shell. In 1863 George Gleasman, together with Fred Gleasman, a brother, bought 400 acres in Owen Township. The parents of Edwin S. Gleasman married in Owen Township in 1866, buying the old homestead, on which the father died, January 1, 1891. The mother has lived at Rockton since 1893. The children born to these parents were as follows: Charles, who resides at Rockton; Mina L., who is Mrs. Rev. William Doble, of Sterling, Ill.; Catherine, who is Mrs. George Crawford, of Rockton, Ill.; Rachel, who is Mrs. Walter Liddle, of Rockton; Alice, who is Mrs. Ernest Gridley, of Belvidere, Ill.; Abby L., who lives with her mother; Frank W., who lives in Rockton Township; and Edwin S.

Edwin S. Gleasman attended the common and high schools of Rockton. After his father's death he took charge of the home farm and conducted it until 1900, when he rented it to his brother, now owning 320 acres in Rockton Township and large tracts of land in the Dakotas. In 1900 Mr. Gleasman went into an implement business at Rockton which he still conducts. On December 14, 1914, the United States Wheel & Tire Co. was organized at Rockton, with Mr. Gleasman as president, John Roy Atwood as treasurer, and H. M. Wilcox as secretary. In addition to the officials, the following sound business men are on the board of directors: George Curry, George W. Shaw, L. H. Moore, Homer P. Moses, Edward Hoffman, and N. P. Nelson. This company manufactures a wheel which is designed to overcome the danger of puncturing the tire, and at the same time give the same resiliency.

On February 18, 1889, Mr. Gleasman was married to Lissie May Truman, born in Rockton

Township, a daughter of J. C. and Mary Hollister (Case) Truman, natives of New York State. Mr. and Mrs. Gleasman have two children, Marie Hollister and Ruth Lake, both of whom are at home. The family are Methodists. Mr. Gleasman is a Republican, and has been president of the township commissioners since 1906, and of the high school board since 1910, and since 1900 has been secretary of the library board of Rockton. His fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Mystic Workers of the World.

GLEASMAN, Fred G. After many years passed in agricultural pursuits and as a cattle dealer, Fred G. Gleasman is now living in comfortable retirement at Rockford. With the exception of several years his entire life has been passed in Winnebago, his birth having occurred on a farm in Owen Township, May 1, 1863. He is a son of Valentine and Margaret (Gridley) Gleasman.

Valentine Gleasman was born at Utica, N. Y., in 1836, was educated there, and as a boy proved his industry by working at driving a team on the Erie Canal. In the fall of 1856, the opportunities of the great West beckoned to him and he left New York for Winnebago County, Ill., finding his first home with M. H. Patton, who was an early schoolteacher at the Canada school. He assisted Mr. Patton, who owned a small farm, and they became close friends, and later Mr. Gleasman bought an ox-team from Mr. Webber, a friend, and put in crops. The following fall he returned to New York and with his mother and her two younger children, came to Roscoe, Ill., renting the old Talcott farm, near Harrison, and operating it for two years. He later became the owner of much land. He purchased eighty acres from Ingalls, Carlton and Hollister, of Owen Township, but sold this and bought 280 acres from Sylvester Talcott, retaining this land until his death. Next he bought eighty acres from George Moffatt, moved to that farm and remained two years, next rented the Steven Mack farm for three years, and later bought the Talcott farm near Harrison, 670 acres, the eighty-acre Captain Erquhart farm, the Collins farm of eighty acres, the Charles Atkinson farm of eighty-eight acres, the Tom Webber farm of seventy-two acres and the Sylvester Smith farm of eighty acres. When he retired from active labor he bought one more farm, the Henry Hollister place, at Rockton, where he died at the age of fifty-six years, in 1893. Mrs. Gleasman survived him until 1914, dying at the age of seventy-two years. At the time of his death Mr. Gleasman was the owner of 1600 acres of fine Winnebago County land, and at one time rented and operated 2500 acres. He was a Republican in politics, and attended the Methodist Episcopal church.

The boyhood of Fred G. Gleasman was passed in Owen and Rockton townships, where he secured his education. Being the oldest boy of the family, he was depended upon by his father to a great extent in the overseeing of the vast

farm enterprises which he was at that time carrying on. When he was but fourteen years of age he was doing a man's work. He remained with his father until 1883, and then began life for himself and for five years rented farms from different parties and operated the same. He then bought 240 acres, which he cultivated for eighteen years, or until 1904, and during that time also operated threshing machine outfits and also dealt heavily in cattle. In 1904 he removed to Rockton, where he bought a nice home and resided for five years, then sold out and moved to Beloit, Wis., where he remained two years. Since his return to Illinois he has lived at Rockford, for a short time residing on Park avenue and then moving to his present place, No. 1325 School street. Mr. Gleasman is a Mason. He built a fine Masonic Home at Rockton. Politically he is a Republican, is connected with the Methodist Episcopal church, and is president of the C. B. Williams Corporation, of Rockford.

In 1885 Mr. Gleasman was married to Miss Hattie R. Stryker, daughter of Isaac B. and Kate H. (VanDyke) Stryker, of Rockton. It is known that she is a relative of the consul to Belgium, of same name. To this union there have been born three children: Clara M., who died April 9, 1889, at the age of three years; Howard V., who married Dora Webber, daughter of Pollard Webber, of Rockton, Ill.; and Pearl O., who died February 15, 1896. The parents of Mrs. Gleasman were born in New Jersey, and came to the West in 1858, settling in Burritt Township, Winnebago County. Two years later they moved to Harrison Township, and in 1885 went to Farnhamville, Iowa, and two years later to Nebraska. There Mr. Stryker homesteaded land and remained seven years, and then moved to Guide Rock, Ark., where he died aged seventy-two years, in 1906. Mrs. Stryker died in Owen Township, Winnebago County, August 1, 1881. Mrs. Gleasman's maternal grandfather, Cornelius VanDyke, fought as a soldier in the War of 1812. She has a brother, John Stryker, who is a teacher in the State Normal school, at Kearney, Neb.

GLEASMAN, George, a very successful general farmer and stockraiser of Rockton Township is justly included among the leading agriculturists of Winnebago County. His operations are conducted along extensive lines and are productive of very gratifying results. He was born in Owen Township, October 3, 1864, a son of Valentine and Maryett (Gridley) Gleasman, natives of Oneida County, N. Y., and Iowa, respectively. The father came to Owen Township, this county in 1857, where he married about 1862, but after a short stay in Owen Township, he moved to Rockton Township and bought a tract of land. He already owned 120 acres in Owen Township to which he added until he owned 360 acres in that township, and 660 acres in Rockton Township. He lived on the latter farm, but operated all of it and improved it to a considerable extent. His death occurred at Rockton in 1893.

The mother survived him and lived until April 22, 1914. Their children were as follows: Fred Godfrey, who resides at No. 1325 School street, Rockford; George; Jessie and Adelbert, who are deceased; and Ona, who lives on the homestead at Rockton.

George Gleasman secured the farm in Rockton Township by gift from his father and after the latter's removal to Rockton he lived on the Erciut farm that his father bought for him. When his mother died, he bought the home place from the other heirs, and now owns about 900 acres, and oversees his entire property and raises stock and does general farming.

In June, 1898, Mr. Gleason married Lillian J. Wilder, born in Rockford Township, a daughter of Bradley and Edna Wilder, natives of New Hampshire. Mr. and Mrs. Gleasman have two children, namely: Adelbert George and Helen Mariett. Mr. Gleasman attends the Methodist church. He has been a school director for three terms and understands the needs of his district as he went to the public schools himself. In politics he is a Republican, and he is a man of sterling attributes and high principles, and his standing is high in his community.

GLEICHMANN, Oscar G., Jr., manufacturer and retail dealer in confectionery in the Palm Theatre building at No. 105 W. State street, Rockford, is an expert in his line and understands how to produce pure and attractive candy, and to sell it at prices that are reasonable considering the quality of the goods. He was born at Brooklyn, N. Y., February 6, 1889, the youngest son of Oscar G. and Susan (Mitchell) Gleichmann. The other children are: Oliver D., Gertrude, Arthur and Harold. The parents came to Rockford when their son was seven years old, and here the father established himself in a confectionery business.

Oscar G. Gleichmann was reared and educated at Rockford, and after leaving school, spent four and one-half years with Sels, Miller & Santee on S. Wyman street, electricians. Mr. Gleichmann then went to work for his father at No. 114 N. Main street, with whom he learned the confectionery business and continued for six years. On December 1, 1914, he established his present business. The premises are beautifully decorated and finely equipped for this enterprise, and this is one of the best stands in the city. Because of his excellent service and the quality and purity of his product, he has built up a very large and desirable trade, and is doing a big business.

On September 16, 1913, Mr. Gleichmann was married to Miss Anna Lavisa Butler, a daughter of Arthur and Nellie Butler of Vermont and they have one daughter, Barbara Jane, born September 18, 1915. Mrs. Gleichmann has two brothers: Raymond O. Butler, who is with Hibbard, Spencer Bartlett & Company, wholesale hardware dealers of Chicago; and Fred Butler, who is a law student of Valparaiso, Ind. Mr. Gleichmann is a member of the order of Moose. He

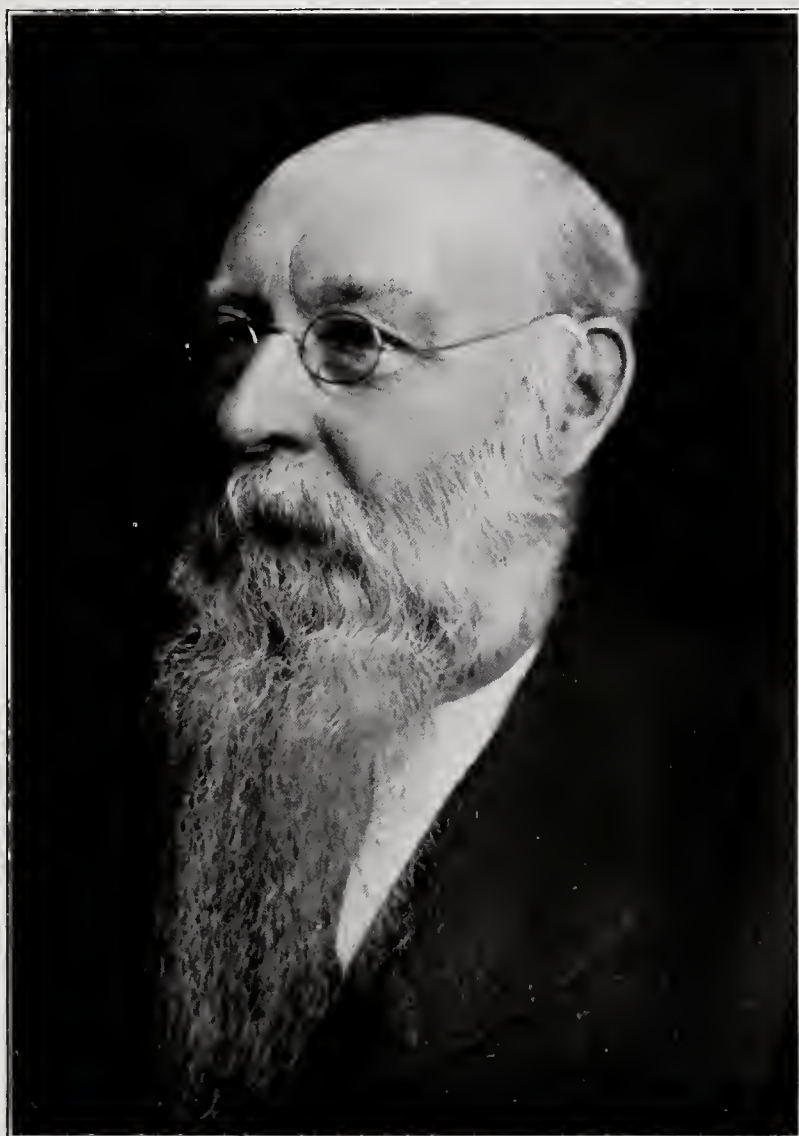
and his wife have a beautiful home at No. 114 Albert avenue, Rockford.

GLEICHMANN, Oliver D., proprietor and manager of the Gleichmanu confectionery store at No. 114 N. Main street, has an establishment that ranks among the leaders in this line. Noted for the purity and excellence of the product, it attracts the best trade of Rockford and vicinity. He was born at Newark, N. J., November 8, 1892, a son of Oscar G. and Susan (Mitchell) Gleichmann. The parents were born at Brooklyn, N. Y., where the father was early engaged in making watch cases, but later became a confectioner. In 1897 he came to Rockford, where he engaged in business for twelve years in a retail line, and then founded the confectionery business and ice cream parlor now owned by his son, Oliver D. Gleichmann. After establishing his son, he went into a wholesale confectionery business at 125 S. Madison street, Rockford. He is a Moose and Eagle in good standing in the lodges. The Episcopalian church holds his membership.

Oliver D. Gleichmann was five years old when he was brought to Rockford, and he here received his educational training. After he completed his school courses, he went east for two years, but returned to Rockford, and entered his father's confectionery store, which he now owns. A young man of enterprise, he is an expert in his line and takes a pride in keeping his product up to standard. His store is patronized by a large number of particular people, who appreciate the fine quality of his goods, and his business is steadily growing.

GLENNY, Henry. Numbered among the leading retired business men of Rockford is Henry Glenny, who for years conducted the reliable tailoring establishment of Rockford that bore his name. He was born in County Sligo, Ireland, August 12, 1827, a son of Henry and Nancy (Allen) Glenny, natives of Ireland, where they were married. The father worked as a weaver. He died, in 1839, a victim of asthma, aged fifty-four years. The mother died in Ireland in 1863, aged sixty-five years. Her parents passed their entire lives in Ireland.

After attending a public school, Henry Glenny learned the merchant tailoring trade and followed it in Ireland until 1847, when he left for America on a sailing vessel from Sligo wharf, landing at Quebec, Canada, from whence he went to Bolton, Canada, and thence to Elmira, N. Y., where he worked at his trade for ten years. He also worked at Belmont, N. Y., for a short time, and then came to Rockford, Ill. After his arrival here, he worked for Joseph Burns and George Smith, merchant tailors, for two years, and then went into business for himself near the present stand of the Henry Clothing Co., and conducted a prosperous merchant tailoring business for twelve years. On account of illness, he was forced to retire and then bought the property where he now resides, at No. 1402 Rockton avenue. In politics Mr.



J. M. Kalton

Glenny is a Republican, but he has never aspired to office. In religious faith he is a member of the Court Street Methodist Church.

In 1857 Mr. Glenny was married to Docia M. Wilbur, a daughter of Simeon and Maria (Gilbert) Wilbur, of Elmira, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Glenny became the parents of five children, as follows: Anna M., who is now Mrs. Charles Wise of N. Church street, Rockford; J. Henry, who died at Rockford, Ill., in 1880; Libby, who died at Rockford, in 1908; Fred, who resides at Firesteel, So. Dak.; and Warren, who died at Rockford, in 1880.

Simeon Wilbur, father of Mrs. Glenny, was born at Boston, Mass., and his wife was born at Hartford, Conn., and they were married in New York state. In 1838 Mr. Wilbur located near Waukegan, Ill., buying 160 acres on the State road in McHenry County, and remained on this farm for two years and then sold and went back to New York state, and operated a farm he owned in Delaware County, near Masonville, for the next ten years. Once more he came to Illinois, and bought a farm of 160 acres in Owen Township, Winnebago County, which he conducted for four years. After selling this property, he went back to Elmira, N. Y., and there died in 1878, aged eighty-two years. His wife died at Burlingame, Kas., while on a visit to her son, Henry Wilbur, in 1872, aged seventy-three years. John Gilbert, the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Glenny, was born in Connecticut, and died in New York state, having followed farming all his life, and been a Republican from the organization of the party. The grandmother also died in New York state.

Mrs. Glenny is one of a large family, as follows: Clarissa, who died at Elmira, N. Y.; Lorinda, who died in Missouri in 1907; Alexander, who was a soldier during the Civil war, died at Little Rock, Ark.; Hattie, who died at Elmira, N. Y.; Warren, who died in New York state; Hetty, who is living in New York state; Simeon, who was a soldier in the Civil war, died on Cape Hatteras; Henry, who lives in Arizona; Beldon, who lives in Colorado; John, who also lives in Colorado; and Docia M., who is Mrs. Glenny. Mr. Glenny is one of the two survivors of a family of five children, as follows: James, who died in Ireland; Sandy, who died in Iowa; Thomas, who died at Rockford; Bessie, who lives in Iowa; and Henry.

GODFREY, Charles Howes, who belongs to one of the old and prominent families of Winnebago County, was born in Chicago, December 10, 1857, a son of Stephen R. and Mary Ann Baker Godfrey, natives of Pawtucket, R. I., and East Dennis, Mass., respectively. He came to Rockford with his parents when one year of age. He attended the public schools and later Beloit College, and then became associated with his father in the clothing business, in which business he remained for about twenty years. In 1900 he became a traveling salesman and so continued for seven years, when he established his present business, that of a merchandise broker.

Mr. Godfrey is a member of the First Congregational church. Fraternally, he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Illinois Commercial Men's Association, the United Commercial Travelers, and was a charter member of the Rockford Rifles.

In 1880 Mr. Godfrey was married to Eugenia Spafford, younger daughter of Charles H. and Abbie (Warren) Spafford. Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey became the parents of the following children: Henry Spafford, of Kansas City, Mo.; Edward Warren, of Rockford, and Carolyn, who resides with her parents in this city. Mrs. Godfrey is a member of the Woman's Club, Rockford College Association, is president of the Rockford College Musical Alumnae, and is ex-regent of the Rockford Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

GODFREY, Stephen R., deceased, was for many years a potent figure in the business life of Rockford. He was born at Johnstown, R. I., a son of Elisha and Patience (Webber) Godfrey, natives of South Dennis, Mass. When only thirteen years old, Stephen R. Godfrey began his business career as a dry goods clerk, and three years later was made the manager of the store. Later the stock was sold, and when only nineteen years old, Mr. Godfrey went to Boston, Mass., where he clerked for J. R. Gardner & Brother, later being with W. D. S. Havens of Pawtucket, R. I. In 1849, Mr. Godfrey like so many others was attracted to California, making the trip by water, and the journey took from March 4 to September 5, 1849. From San Francisco the little party of which Mr. Godfrey was a member, proceeded to Sacramento, and thence to what was then called Hangtown, but is now Placerville. He was not satisfied with the results of his mining, and so soon sold his interest to his comrades, and returned to Sacramento, where, with Capt. Charles Clark, he became proprietor of the Sacramento Hotel, but in 1851 sold his interest, and returned to mining. Essentially a business man, however, he soon formed connections with Charles N. Felton, later United States senator from California, and they ran a pack-mule train from Marysville and traded in the mountains, having at one time a store at Doneyville and another at Gibsonville. In the winter of 1852-3, Mr. Godfrey went to San Francisco and clerked for Strowbridge & Blake, and during the following winter returned to the East, via the Isthmus of Nicaragua, and a few months later went back West via the Isthmus of Panama.

In the fall of 1854 Mr. Godfrey formed a co-partnership with James C. Eddy and carried on a large clothing business at San Francisco until April, 1857, when he returned East. In December of that year he came to Rockford, and formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, John M. Tappen. Later Mr. Godfrey became manager of the clothing house of W. V. Webster, subsequently buying him out. For two years he was in business with Charles Smith, and then, in 1885, he organized the Godfrey Clothing Com-

pany, with himself as president, and his son Charles H., as secretary and treasurer. In politics Mr. Godfrey was a Republican. Fraternally he was a Royal Arch Mason. All his mature years he was a Congregationalist, and during his residence at Rockford was connected with the First Congregational Church of this city. His death occurred in the fall of 1905, he having lived in retirement during the last five years of his life. His wife died in 1885.

Mr. Godfrey was married at Pawtucket, R. I., to Mary A. Baker, born in East Dennis, Mass., where she was educated. From her sixteenth year she was a consistent member of the Congregational Church. Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey became the parents of four children as follows: Emma, who married N. S. Robinson, of Rockford, died eighteen months before her mother; Anna, who married D. S. Hongh of Rockford; Charles H., who married Eugenia Spafford, and Lulu who died when only eighteen years old, just two months after her mother. The two deceased daughters were very active in the work of the First Congregational Church, while Anna was equally faithful in her adherence to the Christian Church.

GOLDEN, Michael H., known to Rockford as a former efficient police official, and to the country at large as one of the older baseball favorites of national fame, was born at Shirley, Middlesex County, Mass., September 11, 1851, a son of Roger and Elizabeth (McDonough) Golden, natives of Ireland and Scotland, respectively. They located in Winnebago County, Ill., in March, 1853, living at Rockford, where the father worked as a stone mason. He died in 1854 of cholera, aged twenty-nine years. Mrs. Golden later married William Roche and resided at Rockford until her death in March, 1908, aged seventy-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Golden had three children, of whom Michael H. was the second in order of birth.

When he was fourteen years old Michael H. Golden began working for the Rockford Ice Company, driving one of its wagons, and remained with this concern for two years. In 1868, he went to New Orleans, La., and remained a month, when he came back to Illinois and joined the Springfield baseball club as catcher. After a year, he went with the Keokuk (Iowa) team and continued with it for three years. He then joined the Chicago White Stockings, and was with that team for a year, and for two years was with the Indianapolis (Ind.) team. Returning to the Springfield team he was with it a year, and then was with the Milwaukee team for a year. Coming back to Rockford, he was with McKee's Western League until it was disbanded the following year.

Mr. Golden then retired from baseball, after a long and successful career, and on May 4, 1880, joined the Rockford police force as patrolman, and continued on the force for thirty years and six months. Although he might often have received much deserved promotion, he preferred to remain a patrolman. When he retired October

30, 1910, his friends and enthusiastic admirers of South Rockford presented him with a valuable gold watch as a mark of their esteem and confidence. At the same time the police department presented him with an entire equipment for fishing, that sport being his chief relaxation, and a gold star inscribed with date of retirement. As is but natural, Mr. Golden is a rabid baseball fan, and in 1908 Mr. Golden and Thomas Walsh bought the franchise in the Wisconsin and Illinois League and presented it to Rockford. Since his retirement he has transacted some business in real estate and writing insurance. It is his boast that during the forty-one years that he was associated with baseball and the police force, he never took a drink of intoxicating liquor, a remarkable record. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Columbus, and is a consistent member of the Catholic Church. Politically he is a Republican. In 1884 he built his present residence at No. 810 N. Winnebago street.

On October 29, 1874, Mr. Golden was married to Elizabeth Ward, born at Cleveland, Ohio, July 6, 1856, a daughter of John and Rose Ward, natives of Ohio, who located at Morning Sun, Iowa, where they continued to live until their death. Mr. and Mrs. Golden have had the following children: Gertrude, who is the wife of Charles T. Nelson of No. 819 N. Winnebago street, Rockford; Charles J., who is a stock and commission broker of Chicago; Genevieve, a high school graduate, who married William Julian, captain of fire station No. 6 of Rockford; Mabel E., a high school graduate, who is a stenographer, lives at home; Helen, who married C. M. O'Brien of Davenport, Iowa; Laura E., who is the cashier of the Rockford Electric Company. Mr. Golden has two grandchildren, Frances E. Nelson and Helen O'Brien. Charles J., who was graduated from the Rockford High school and took a two years' course at the Northwestern University, was catcher of the latter's baseball team during his freshman year, and was also a member of the football team, being a noted athlete and after his return to Rockford, was manager of the Rockford baseball team for a year. Mr. Golden owns a twenty acre farm in Florida.

GOLDMAN, David. One of the hardworking, reliable and prosperous business men of Rockford is David Goldman. He was born in Russian Poland, in 1877, a son of H. and Anna Goldman. The father came to the United States and located at Elgin, Ill., where he established himself in a junk business that he still conducts. His arrival took place in 1873, his family following him as soon as he had a home ready for them.

David Goldman attended the public schools of his native place and also was under the immediate instruction of a rabbi. He remained with his parents until 1899 when he came to Rockford and started to dealing in junk, handling all kinds, including paper and rags, and has built up a large and profitable business.

In 1900 Mr. Goldman was married at Chicago to Annie Coplin, born in Russian Poland. Mr.

and Mrs. Goldman have had the following children: Lillian, Evelin, Sylvia, Marian, Edward and Louis. Mr. Goldman is of the Jewish religious faith. His political convictions make him a Republican. Fraternally he belongs to the Royal Arcanum. Thrifty, industrious and capable, Mr. Goldman has forged ahead and deserves full credit for what he has accomplished.

GOODHUE, Josiah C., page 651.

GOODWIN, A. E., page 706.

GOODWIN, Samuel. For a number of years the name of Samuel Goodwin has been associated with the prosperity of Winnebago County, and since he retired from active participation in business life, he has taken an added interest in the local affairs of Rockford. Mr. Goodwin was born in Worcestershire, England, July 5, 1826, a son of John and Sarah (Wagstaff) Goodwin.

John Goodwin and wife were born in Worcestershire, England, and they were married at Old Church, Kidderminster, in the same county, her birthplace, February 9, 1819. John Goodwin learned the milling trade, with his father, and followed it all his life at Hult and Worcester, England, and in connection carried on an extensive grain business. For some years he was mayor of his town, Worcester, and in his official capacity, in 1851, attended a fair given at London by Prince Albert. A number of other mayors were present, and Mayor John Goodwin won one of the prizes offered, and had the honor of being presented to Queen Victoria, at her request. John Goodwin died in his native county, at the age of seventy-five years. Mrs. Goodwin died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Eugene Oswald, when aged ninety years.

Samuel Goodwin was reared and educated in England, where he learned the milling trade, but in 1856 he left home, setting sail on March 28, for the United States. His objective point was Chicago, Ill., but after reaching that city he did not find an opening to suit him. He then went to Ridott Township, Stephenson County, Ill., where he bought a farm of eighty acres, which took all his available money, and he spent the next nine years upon this property. Later he rented a farm belonging to Frank Salisbury, which he operated from January, 1864, to 1868, and then bought the old Coolidge farm of 120 acres, adding to it until he owned 325 acres, and lived upon it until 1880, during this time becoming an extensive cattle raiser and feeder, and still owns this property. In 1880, he moved to Rockford, and lived on the George Hastings place of ten acres on East State street, but in 1884 erected the residence he now occupies, situated on fifteen acres of land. In 1882 he organized with others, the Rockford Co-operative Furniture Company. While living in Ridott Township, he was treasurer of schools, being elected upon the Republican ticket, but aside from that has held

no offices. The Episcopal Church holds his membership.

In March, 1865, Mr. Goodwin was married to Miss Hannah Green, a daughter of Richard and Elenor (Whitehouse) Green, of Warwickshire, England, who died at Rockford, January 12, 1902, having borne her husband two children, namely: Bertha Galton, who married Edward Garst of Coon Rapids, Iowa; and Ida M., who lives with her father. Richard Green, father of Mrs. Goodwin, was a builder of canals and bridges and also handled large tracts of land for farming purposes. The family on the maternal side were all interested to an extensive degree in agriculture. Both parents died in England. Mr. Goodwin is a venerable man of eighty-nine years, and fortunately enjoys excellent health, owing to his temperate life. He stands very high in the estimation of his neighbors, and is a man of consequence in his locality.

GORHAM, Marquis L., page 709.

GOVERN, Michael J., foreman, police officer and deputy sheriff of Sinnissippi Park, Rockford, is a man who has placed the people of this city under a debt of gratitude because of the services he has rendered in keeping in order one of its finest pleasure grounds. He was born in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, Ill., August 1, 1856, a son of Patrick and Mary (Turley) Govern, natives of County Galway and County Roscommon, Ireland. They were married in New York state, and lived there for four years, afterward engaged in farming. In 1853 they came to Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, and for some years lived on rented land, but in 1864 bought forty acres, to which they kept adding until they owned 271 acres, which their son Peter now owns. The father died on this farm in 1906, and the mother then moved to Rockford, where she died in 1903.

Michael J. Govern attended school in his home district, and until he was twenty-seven years old resided with his parents on the home place. Then he bought an adjoining farm of 120 acres, which he conducted for twenty-three years. He then sold and in 1910 moved to Rockford and began working in the city parks. So efficient did he prove himself that in 1911 he became foreman of construction and improvement for the various parks, and later was made foreman, police officer and deputy sheriff of Sinnissippi Park. There are fifteen men under his control, and he keeps the park in order and supervises the improvements.

On July 1, 1885, Mr. Govern was married to Mary Corcoran, born at Rockford, a daughter of John and Bridget Corcoran, natives of Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Govern became the parents of the following children: Mary A., who lives at Freeport, Ill.; and Elizabeth V. and Joseph, both of whom are at home. In politics Mr. Govern is a Republican, and while residing in Cherry Valley Township, he served as overseer of highways for nine years, and as school director for six

years. He attends St. James Catholic Church, of which he is a consistent member. Fraternally he belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 470, K. of C. During 1907 Mr. Govern took an enjoyable and interesting trip of six months through the western states and as far as Manitoba, Canada.

GOVERN, Peter F. The records of Winnebago County show that some of the most reliable and substantial of its citizens have gained their ample fortunes from agricultural pursuits, the money thus earned permitting them to live at the county seat in comfort. One of these retired farmers is Peter F. Govern, of Rockford. He was born in Cherry Valley Township, August 14, 1866, a son of Patrick and Mary (Turley) Govern, natives of Westcommon, Galway, Ireland. They were married in New York State, and soon thereafter located in Cherry Valley Township on a farm of 271 acres which they rented at first, and later bought, and improved. The father died March 25, 1900, following which the mother moved to Rockford, where she died on October 15, 1909, both being buried in St. James Cemetery. Their children were as follows: Mary, who is Mrs. Matthew Hickey, a widow, who lives on Crosby street, Rockford; John, who died in March, 1902, in Cherry Valley Township, left a widow who resides on his former farm; Michael, who lives on Longwood street, Rockford; Julia, who is Mrs. John Nash, lives on the corner of Longwood and Crosby streets; and Peter, who was the youngest of the family.

Peter F. Govern resided at home and after his father's death he bought the farm from his mother, but in 1902 he rented it and came to Rockford where he engaged in teaming until 1909. In that year he returned to the farm and conducted it for three years, and then came back to Rockford and built a fine modern brick residence on Kishwaukee street. He is now practically retired, although he does a little teaming when he feels so inclined, merely to occupy his time.

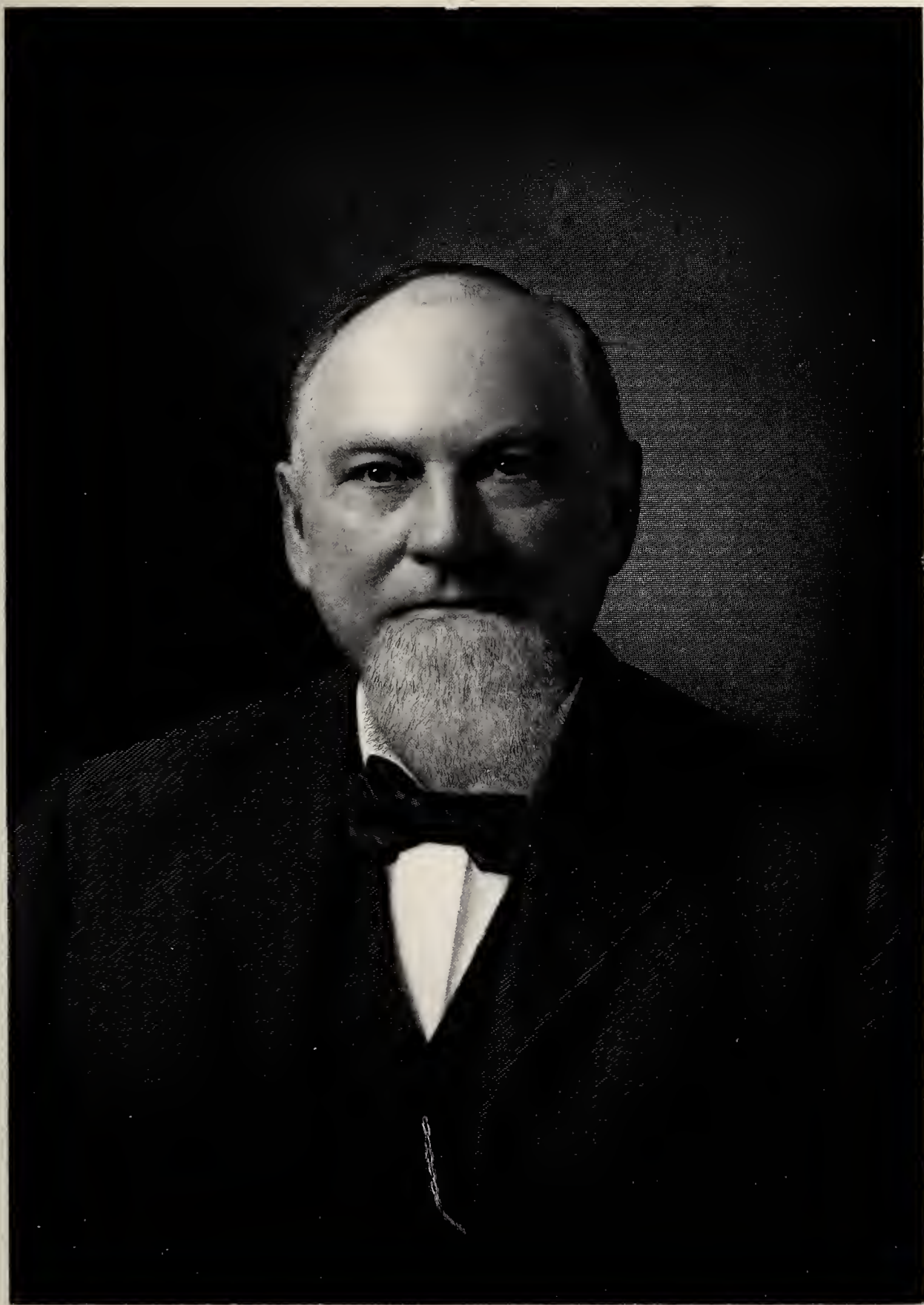
On April 12, 1909, Mr. Govern was married to Mary L. Hayes, born at Rockford, a daughter of John and Mary (Mitchell) Hayes, born in County Cork, Ireland, and married at Waltham, Mass. They came to Rockford at an early day, and for many years the father was foreman for J. P. Manny. Mrs. Govern was educated in the common and high schools of Rockford, but Mr. Govern's educational advantages were limited to those offered by the district schools. He has served as a school director and road commissioner. In politics he is an independent voter. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Columbus No. 470, of Rockford. Both he and Mrs. Govern belong to St. James Roman Catholic Church, and are popular in it as they are in the outside world.

GRAVES, Isaac. It is rather remarkable that any of the old soldiers of the Civil war were able to take up peaceful occupations after their return from their military service, for not one

escaped injury of some kind. Yet the majority developed into excellent business or professional men and those who survive are accounted among the reliable and substantial citizens of any community in which they are located. One of these honored veterans is Isaac Graves of Rockford. He was born at Watertown, N. Y., June 10, 1841, a son of Joel and Eliza Ann (Dodge) Graves, natives of E. Barnard, Vt., and the Mohawk Valley, N. Y.

Isaac Graves attended the common schools of his native place, and for some time acted as secretary of the Watertown fire department, of which he was a member. In August, 1862, he enlisted to preserve the integrity of the flag during the Civil war, in the Tenth Heavy Artillery, and spent eighteen months acting as a guard of Washington, D. C. After that he was in the battle of the Wilderness, and in the pits about Petersburg. Mr. Graves also took part in the battle known as the crater at Petersburg, and was the last man to speak to Gen. Steadman before the officer was killed in that engagement. The regiment was ordered back to Washington, and was at Alexandria for a month, when it was sent to the Shenandoah Valley to assist in taking a provision train through to Gen. Sheridan. The next stand was in the Lowden Valley to assist Gen. Custer, who had secured a large number of cows, sheep and other stock. The troops traveled in six trains across the Shenandoah Valley, and several times across the Lowden Valley. Although Mr. Graves was never wounded nor taken prisoner, he has always felt the effects of the hardships and privations he underwent. He received his honorable discharge July 5, 1865.

Returning to Watertown, Mr. Graves spent a season in that locality, and then went to Missouri, driving through from Brookville to Brunswick, spending a season at the latter place. Once more he returned to Watertown and spent three years, conducting a grocery business, but in 1874, left that place for Joliet, Ill., and there he was in a grocery business for a season. Leaving Joliet, he came to Rockford, where he worked for the water works company, and was the first man to strike a blow on its water pipes. For eight months he continued this line of work, but being then injured was forced to lay off until he recovered. Upon his return he was made foreman of a gang of workmen, and had the misfortune to be caught in a cave-in, which resulted in the breaking of several bones. Upon his recovery he found it impossible to return to such strenuous labor, and so worked at whatever he could find to do until he had saved sufficient money to establish himself in a butchering business. For twenty years he was engaged in this line, although his poor health oftentimes necessitated his selling his store and resting for a period. During ten seasons he conducted a meat wagon route through the rural districts, but of late years he has been keeping a dairy and selling milk. He bought a piece of property on Peach street from which he removed the old buildings, and erected a fine



Copyright 1901 by

Campbell Brothers, N.Y.

Frank Ward

modern house. In addition to this he owns another residence and two additional lots on the same street.

In the fall of 1873 Mr. Graves was married to Frances Parker, born August 13, 1849, at Hounsfield, N. Y., a daughter of Henry Parker, and they became the parents of the following children: Jesse P., who lives at Waltham, Mass., married Elizabeth Steckle; Dorothea, who is Mrs. George Sherman, of Rockford, Ill., has two children, Dorothea and Mildred; Bertha, who is Mrs. Kelsey Dawson, of Rockford; Mildred, who is at home; Grace, who is Mrs. George Harvey, of Rockford, has three children, Jane, Richard and Marion; and Perry, who is in Louisiana, in the lumber business. In politics Mr. Graves is a Republican but he has not desired public honors. He belongs to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and is a most estimable man in every respect.

GRAVES, Warren H. General farming and stock raising are kindred industries and ones which have attracted considerable attention from the progressive men of Winnebago County, and one who has made a success in both is Warren H. Graves of Rockton Township. He was born in Hoosick Falls, Rensselaer County, N. Y., October 29, 1839, a son of Timothy and Frances (Thomas) Graves, natives of Hoosick Falls, N. Y., and Williamstown, Mass. After their marriage the parents settled in Hoosick Falls, N. Y., where the paternal grandfather and great-grandfather were living, the Graves family being an old one in that section.

Warren H. Graves attended the common schools of his native place, and one term at the Burr Academy in Manchester, Vt. Early in the beginning of the Civil war he began to feel that his country had need of him, and he enlisted in the Union army in June, 1861, and served in the Thirtieth New York Volunteer Infantry for two years, being assigned to the Army of the Potomac, and participated in the battles of Chancellorsville, second battle of Bull Run and Fredericksburg. At the second battle of Bull Run he had his left thumb shot off, but aside from that was not injured. The regiment was transferred to Washington to guard that city, and there Mr. Graves was honorably discharged in July, 1863. Returning to Hoosick Falls, he remained there until 1866, when he came to Illinois, and bought 160 acres in Rockton Township in April, 1867, and has operated it ever since. He has put in all the present improvements, and has added to his farm until he now owns 233 acres, all under cultivation except about forty acres of timber. On this farm he carries on general farming and hog raising.

On January 21, 1867, Mr. Graves was married to Clara Amanda Farnsworth, born in the town of Eaton, Compton County, Canada, Province of Quebec, September 27, 1832, a daughter of Samuel and Tabitha (Barlow) Farnsworth. The marriage took place at Beloit, Wis., to which Mrs. Graves had come in 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Graves became the parents of two children:

Walter, who was born July 24, 1871; and Nettie C., who was born October 27, 1874, both of whom are at home. Mr. Graves has served as a road commissioner and school director, being a Republican in politics. He belongs to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and is a man who stands very high in his neighborhood in every way.

GREEN, Simon. Some of the most substantial business houses of Rockford were founded by men who, having carried out their ideas and discharged their duty to society and their families, are now living retired, having transferred the responsibilities of an active life to the shoulders of their descendants. This is the case of the reliable shoe house founded by Simon Green. Mr. Green was born in County Clare, Ireland, March 12, 1837, a son of Francis and Bridget (O'Niel) Green, who, in 1852, came to Boston, Mass.

In the next year, Simon Green followed his parents to America, and spent seventeen years at Boston, where both of his parents died. His educational training was limited to the schools of his native place, but as he is a very intelligent and observing man, he has added to his store of knowledge, and is very well informed. After coming to Boston, he learned the shoe-making trade, and after 1870 moved to Elgin, Ill., where he spent five years. Mr. Green then came to Rockford and established a shoe business which he built to substantial proportions and in 1903, retiring, turned over to his sons who continue it.

In 1863 Mr. Green was married at Quincy, Mass., to Bridget O'Connor, born in County Cork, Ireland, July 28, 1833. Mr. and Mrs. Green became the parents of the following children: Julia, who is the wife of John Weldon, lives in Chicago, Ill., and has the following children: Hannah, John, Julius, Rose M., James, Helen, Genevieve and Charles; John; Simon, who married Ann O'Donnell, has the following children, Rose, Katherine, James, Joseph, Thomas and John; Michael, who married Mary Joyce; James, who, like the others, lives at Rockford; and Rose, who is Mrs. John Pendergast of Galesburg, Ill., and has four children: Francis, Robert, Jack and Thomas. St. James Catholic Church holds the membership of Mr. Green and his family. He is independent in his political views.

Mr. Green is a self-made man and is one of the most prominent citizens of Rockford.

GREGORY, Eliphalet, page 643.

GREGORY, James Bateman, who is rightly numbered among the sound and representative men of Winnebago County, is now living in comfortable retirement at Rockford. He was born in this city February 28, 1842, a son of Samuel and Joanna (Bateman) Gregory, the former born at Danbury, Conn., April 4, 1810, and the latter born in Lower Canada, November 16, 1812. They were married in one of the eastern counties in New York, February 9, 1832,

and in 1836 came by boat to Chicago and by ox-team and one old horse to Rockford.

Samuel Gregory entered 160 acres in what is now the east part of Rockford and built the third house in Rockford, which was constructed of logs, he being one of the earliest settlers here. As he had money deposited in the East, he sent his brother back for it, and instead of taking chances of its being stolen, it being all in bills, the brother took a novel way of protecting himself. He cut the bills in half, and took one section and entrusted the other to another man, and when both packages were delivered to Samuel Gregory it was not a difficult matter to paste the bills together. Samuel Gregory improved his farm and operated it until 1864 when he sold it for \$52 per acre. This farm is now Woodruff's Addition to Rockford. He then bought a farm of 175 acres in Cherry Valley Township, and returned to Pekin, N. Y., where he died in May, 1886, but was buried at Rockford. His wife died August 23, 1866. Their children were as follows: S. Deloss, who died in Guilford Township; Delia A., deceased, who was Mrs. I. D. Johnson; John C., who lives at Alexandria, S. Dak.; Samuel Homer, who is deceased; James B.; Edna Lorana, who died in infancy; Sarah Adalaide, who is Mrs. G. W. Witwer, a widow, of Chicago; and Edna Joanna, who was Mrs. Harvey Hulbert, is deceased.

James B. Gregory resided with his parents, attending the common schools and the Henry Freeman school of Rockford until 1866, when he took charge of his father's farm, and conducted it for two and one-half years. He then had the contract for sprinkling the streets of East Rockford for one year, when he rented a farm in Guilford Township, and remained on it for three years. He then returned to Rockford and spent two years, but went back to Guilford Township and rented a farm for eight years, when he bought 104 acres in the same township. In 1891 he sold and traded sixty acres for city property. He then retired. The family reside in a residence on South Second street that Mrs. Gregory's father built in 1868, which has been remodeled until it is now thoroughly modern.

On November 4, 1866, Mr. Gregory was married to Caroline S. Springer, born in Genesee County, N. Y., September 16, 1848, a daughter of Isaac W. and Sophia (Besona) Springer, natives of New York state who came to Rockford in 1857, where Mr. Springer became a merchant and contractor. He died January 13, 1897, aged seventy-one years, while Mrs. Springer died November 19, 1892, aged sixty-eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Gregory became the parents of the following children: Ward S., who was born June 10, 1868, lives in Guilford Township and married Minnie Snyder, issue, Aubrey J., Henry S. and Donald S.; Henry O., who was born July 24, 1870, died November 4, 1894; Arthur S., who was born October 11, 1874, lives at Rockford and married Virgil Ferguson; and Earl I., who

was born December 3, 1885, married Anna Hanson and lives at Beloit, Wis., and they have two children, Ralph H. and Stanley S. Mrs. Gregory is a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Gregory belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M., and is in high standing with this order, as he is in the community where he and his have for so long been residents.

GREGORY, Mrs. Laura Potter, one of the women of Winnebago County who has made herself a potent factor in its life, has been instrumental in securing many much needed reforms. Her connection with the Rockford Board of Education has been productive of excellent work resulting in a general improvement in the schools of this city. She is the daughter of Joel B. and Adaline (Lathrop) Potter, and was born at Rockford, her parents having come to this city in 1839, from Genesee County, N. Y.

In 1889 occurred the marriage of Laura Potter and Edward S. Gregory, the latter having been born at Rockford, Ill., April 11, 1853, a son of Louis B. and Lucy (Spafford) Gregory. Mr. Gregory was in a plumbing and steamfitting business until his death, November 13, 1911. About 1884 Mr. Gregory was made a member of the city council of Rockford. He belonged to the Westminster Presbyterian Church for many years, and served it as trustee for a long period. Mr. and Mrs. Gregory became the parents of one daughter, Evalyn A., who is at home.

Mrs. Gregory was first made a member of the Rockford Board of Education in December, 1905, and served as such until she resigned in 1909. Her services, however, were recognized to have been so valuable that in May, 1913, she was re-appointed and was induced to again accept the responsibilities of the office. She is a very useful member of the Rockford Woman's Club, and is active in the Daughters of the American Revolution, owing her membership in this organization to the fact that she is a descendant of Dr. James Potter of Revolutionary fame. Mrs. Gregory, capable and alert, is typical of the progressive times in which she lives. Nevertheless she retains all those qualities of refined womanhood which make for the highest class of her sex, and her influence and leadership is accepted by the intelligent people of her city.

GREGORY, Lewis B., page 662.

GROVER, Edwin Ruthben, now one of the highly respected retired residents of Rockford, has had many experiences and during his active years bore an important part in the development of business conditions. He was born at Olean, N. Y., April 1, 1826, a son of John and Esther (Reed) Grover. The father went to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., from New Jersey, in young manhood, and there he and a man named Conrad cut the road from Olean to Franklinville, where he settled. The mother was reared in Connecticut and came with her father, Ebenezer Reed, to Olean. He had served in four companies during the Revolutionary war, going

out from Connecticut, and when he applied for a pension he was given a land grant at Olean Point, N. Y. John and Esther Grover had ten children, seven sons and three daughters. The mother died when Edwin R. was a baby. Later the father married (second) Sarah (Burbank) Sprout, a widow, and they had four children.

In 1837, the father, with his wife and eight of his children, took a boat from Buffalo, N. Y., to Chicago, and in the latter place bought wagons, having horses, and loaded his household goods and before daylight started for Harrison, Ill., where he took up 160 acres of government land. This was the family home until the father died in 1868. In reaching their destination the little party passed through Rockford, which at that date consisted of seven houses, and land could have then been purchased in what is now the heart of the city, for \$1.25 per acre.

E. R. Grover and a brother made the trip from Chicago to Harrison, a distance of 112 miles, on foot, starting before daylight on the morning of May 13th, and reaching the site of their new home in time to go to sleep on the night of the 14th. After he reached his majority, E. R. Grover returned to New York and was engaged in lumbering, running board rafts down the Alleghany River to Pittsburgh, and often would walk back from Pittsburgh to Olean Point. For three or four years he was thus engaged, and then carried on the same line of business along the Wisconsin River and ran the first raft down Rock River. He took the contract for getting out timber for the first bridge built across the river at Rockford in 1844. In the spring of 1854 he took a contract from the Chicago & Galena Railroad, now a part of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad system, for the ties for this road, and he cut 60,000 and carted them across country to the right of way. Mr. Grover had many business transactions with Mr. Kent, the first settler at Rockford, and run lumber down Rock River to Mr. Kent's mill.

In 1850 Mr. Grover was married to Elizabeth Scott, a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Fisher) Scott, and located on a farm six miles from Rockford. This property he improved and lived upon until he came to Rockford in 1897. Mrs. Grover died in December of that same year. In July of the same year Mr. Grover met with an accident that caused him serious trouble, including blood infection, so that finally his left leg had to be amputated. Mr. and Mrs. Grover became the parents of three daughters, as follows: Mary Marcella, who died in 1913; Cornelia Estella, who is Mrs. Peter Paulsen; and Ida, who is Mrs. Louis Dobson. Mr. Grover has never dabbled in politics, although he served very effectively as constable for two years, and collector for the same length of time. He was a charter member of four different Odd Fellow lodges, and has passed the chairs eleven times, and represented the lodges three times in the grand lodge. The Methodist Church holds his membership. After selling his farm, he came to live with his daughter, Mrs. Paulson, at No. 827 Maple street.

Some of the incidents related by Mr. Grover relative to his early experiences are intensely interesting. When he first began operating on Rock River, the Indians were his only neighbors, and were very numerous, but peaceful. Some of them would come and spend the evening with him each night, or he would visit them. At the time of the Mexican war, he was at Cincinnati, Ohio, on a lumber raft, and four of his men enlisted there and went into the service. Many of his trips took him through St. Louis in the early days, and he oftentimes went on to New Orleans, the fare being one dollar. He says that he oftentimes saw a stack of gold on a poker table on these boats, where high stakes were the rule, as big as a peck measure. The players protected themselves against each other with large daggers and braces of pistols. Were there sufficient space many other entertaining facts might be given of the scenes through which Mr. Grover passed, and which he recalls so vividly. These early days have passed, but the events which belonged to them, go to make up the history of our country.

GSCHWINDT, Adam, vice president and general manager of the Rockford Electric Company, at No. 118 S. Wyman street, is a fine example of the reliable and progressive business men of Rockford, whose financial standing is unquestioned. He was born at Stroudsburg, Pa., July 28, 1876, a son of Christian and Katherine Gschwindt, the former of whom was born at Wurttemberg, Germany, and the latter at Stroudsburg, Pa. When he was fourteen years old, the father left Germany for the United States, and located at Stroudsburg, Pa., where he found employment in the Kistler tannery. This concern had a number of tanneries at different points, and the father later became general superintendent of all of them, moving subsequently to Scranton, Pa., where he is now living retired.

Adam Gschwindt was reared at Stroudsburg and at Scranton, Pa., and attended school in both places. He was associated with the American Gas & Electric Company at Scranton, Pa., later going to its offices at New York City, becoming the company's third vice president, and purchasing agent, so continuing for five years. He then came to Rockford, and became associated with the Rockford Electric Company, of which he is now vice president and general manager. From the first he has made his influence felt in business circles. He is now president of the Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the Rockford School Board of Engineering, a director of the Rockford Motor Club, a director of the Rockford School Exposition, and secretary and treasurer of the Sinnissippi Farm and Orchard Company, giving to all the benefit of his excellent judgment and wide experience.

In 1896 Mr. Gschwindt was married to Miss Miriam Davis, a daughter of William and Mary Davis of Catasauqua, Pa., where her father is manager of a large steel plant. Mr. and Mrs. Gschwindt have five children, namely: Chris-

tine, William D., Janice K., Richard C., and Adeline. The family reside in a beautiful home at No. 1239 Harlem boulevard. Mr. Gschwindt belongs to the Masonic order in which he has attained to the thirty-second degree, and he is also a Shriner. A man of great capability, he has widely directed his efforts, and steadily advanced in his chosen line.

GULLIVER, Julia H., president of Rockford College. The inspirational power that permeates the personality of certain individuals, irrespective of sex, sets them apart as natural leaders. In the intellectual life, they are found at the head of organizations and institutions that mould the development of youthful minds, finding in this environment a congenial and compensating field. This great endowment, augmented by experience and ripened scholarship, thus becomes a vital factor in thousands of lives. Possessing this natural gift of inspiring others with her own enthusiasm, Julia H. Gulliver, president of Rockford College, has been the means of opening many doors of opportunity to those who have come under her educative care. Through executive ability, also, she has built up an institution of learning that is a credit to the state in which it is situated.

Julia Henrietta Gulliver was born at Norwich, Conn., July 30, 1856. She is a daughter of New England in every sense and a descendant of Revolutionary patriots. Her parents were John Putnam and Frances Woodbury (Curtis) Gulliver.

John Putnam Gulliver was born at Boston, Mass., May 12, 1819, and died at Andover, Mass., January 25, 1894. He was a descendant of Anthony Gulliver, who emigrated from England to America in 1645. His grandfather, Gershom Gulliver, was active throughout the Revolutionary war, taking part at Lexington, Ticonderoga and Crown Point. For sixteen years prior to his demise, John Putnam Gulliver was professor of the "Relations of Christianity and Science" in the Andover Theological Seminary. His entire life was one of great intellectual force. In 1840 he was graduated from Yale College, subsequently was graduated at Andover and immediately afterward accepted a call to take charge of the Broadway Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn. After a pastorate of twenty years he accepted a call to the New England Church, Chicago, where he served from 1865 to 1868, being one of the founders of the Advance during this period. His presidency of Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., from 1868 to 1872, followed. From 1872 to 1879 he was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Binghamton, N. Y., and from 1879 until death he filled the office of Stone professor, the first incumbent of that chair, in Andover Seminary. He was a scholarly man of strong convictions and great moral courage. On September 8, 1845, he was united in marriage with Frances Woodbury Curtis, who was born at Torrington, Conn., August 15, 1823, and who died at Andover, Mass., March 9, 1892. She was of distinguished lineage, a direct descendant of

Governor Bradford, the founder and for thirty years the governor of Plymouth Colony. Of the six children born to this marriage, Julia Henrietta was the fourth in order of birth.

In the atmosphere of a cultured home, Miss Gulliver spent childhood and youth, a delicacy in health preventing any attendance at school until she was eight years old. Her natural tendency in the direction of literary and educational effort afterward led her into studious paths and she became a student at Smith College, Northampton, Mass., from which institution she was graduated with the A. B. degree in 1879, the Ph.D. degree being conferred in 1888. From *Who's Who*, 1914-1915, the following information is gained: Student Leipzig, Germany, 1892-3; (LL.D., Smith College, 1910). Head dept. of philosophy and Bibl. lit. Rockford (Ill.) Sem. 1890-2; head dept. philosophy and Bibl. lit., 1893; pres., since 1902, Rockford College. Officer d'Académie, 1909. Mem. Am. Philos. Soc., Religious Edn. Assn., Phi Beta Kappa. Contrib. on psychology and kindred subjects to various periodicals. Forthcoming book: *The Essence of Democracy*, G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

GUSTAFSON, Clarence A., physiological physician and a man of importance at Rockford, is conveniently located in office No. 102 Elcamba building, at No. 419 West State street. He was born at Altona, Ill., August 1, 1891, a son of John E. and Catherine (Cheline) Gustafson, natives of Sweden who were farming people. They came to the United States in 1880, stopping first in Kansas, later going to Texas, and still later going to Altona, Ill., where they remained until 1915, when they located at Galva, Ill., their present home.

Dr. Gustafson was educated in the public schools of Altona, Ill., and then went to the Western Illinois State Normal School at Macomb, Ill., taking a three-year course to prepare himself for the profession of teaching. Completing this course, he took an additional one of a year's duration in Brown's Business College, Galesburg. He then accepted a position with the Galesburg National Bank and continued with that institution for eighteen months. In the meanwhile he became convinced of the efficacy of drugless treatment, and entering the International College of Osteopathy, completed the course, following it with a course at the Universal Chiropractic College of Davenport, Iowa, was graduated therefrom in 1912, and for a short period was in active practice at Wilton Junction, Iowa. Later he took up the work at the National Post Graduate School of Chicago and after passing the examination before the Illinois State Board of Health, he came to Rockford where he has since been in practice, meeting with remarkable success in his method of treatment. He is a drugless practitioner and is a graduate of the best schools in his line of work. Osteopathy, Chiropractic, Neuropathy and Mechanical Therapeutics claim him as an exponent of their practice and art. He is also



Engr'd by Campbell Brothers, N.Y.

Frank R. Ward.

THE

a specialist in Electric Therapeutics, which he studied at the Chicago Institute of Physiological Therapeutics. His office is fitted with every appliance known to his profession, for he is thoroughly modern in his work. Dr. Gustafson's methods meet with the approval of the public, and he has proven himself worthy of the confidence reposed in him. He uses no drugs or surgery in effecting his cures, his science working along different lines. His patients are not confined to the city or county, but come to him from all over northern Illinois. Dr. Gustafson belongs to the Rockford Lodge of Elks. His religious affiliations are with the Christian Church. He is unmarried. A man of high principles and strong personality, Dr. Gustafson has advanced rapidly and deserves the position he has gained in public esteem.

HAIGHT, Daniel Shaw, pages 642-665.

HAINES, Anthony, page 706.

HALL, Charles R. The standing of Winnebago County agriculturists has been established through the efforts of the men now engaged in operating the farm lands of this region. One of them who has achieved a desirable prosperity through his own efforts is Charles R. Hall of Rockford Township. He was born at Bristol, Conn., in August, 1855, a son of Friend C. and Loly B. (Mathews) Hall, natives of Wallingford and Waterbury, Conn., his birth occurring July 23, 1831, a son of Lyman and Mila (Hall) Hall, natives of Connecticut. Mrs. Hall was born April 1, 1835, a daughter of Joel and Julia (Ford) Mathews, also born in Connecticut.

On June 27, 1857, Friend C. Hall came to Rockford Township, this county, having been married in 1852. He joined an uncle, Riley Hall, one of the leading pioneers of Winnebago County. They worked the farm together, it then containing 820 acres, 120 acres of which were in timber. This property was subsequently willed to him by his uncle, and he conducted the cleared land, and labored to place the remainder under cultivation, becoming one of the most progressive farmers of the county. He served as road commissioner and was always an advocate of good roads before the majority of his associates had awakened to the necessity for them. Owning 300 acres of land four miles west of his homestead, he moved on this property in 1859, and there lived until 1872, when he returned to the old farm, where he died October 15, 1904. His wife died April 11, 1901. Their children were as follows: F. Laroy, of Rock Island; Charles R.; Ella J., now (Mrs. John Stiles), of Rockford Township; and Mila A., residing with Charles R.

As long as his parents lived, Charles R. Hall resided with them. His farm of 300 acres is as fine a one as can be found in this section, and he takes a deep interest in his work. Never having married, his sister, Mila A., who has

always lived with him, keeps house for him. Mr. Hall attended the public schools in his district, and the Lounsbury Academy of Rockford. He affiliates with the Christian Union Church. In politics he is a Democrat, and since 1890, has been a school director. He is an enthusiastic thirty-second degree Mason and belongs to the Consistory of Freeport, Ill. He is a member of Tebala Temple A. A. O. N. M. S., the Eastern Star, the White Shrine, and the Elks, No. 64, of Rockford, and has held office in all these organizations. He is a trustee of the Masonic building of Rockford, and was on the building committee at the time of its erection. His sister is a member of the Eastern Star and the White Shrine. Mr. Hall owns property on both sides of the road, his barns being on one side, and his residence on the other. The original buildings were all destroyed in 1904, with the exception of the old stage barn erected by Riley Hall. These were replaced by Charles R. Hall, with modern structures.

Riley Hall, uncle of Charles R. Hall's father, was a most remarkable man. He moved to Winnebago County, Ill., about 1837, and owned from 1,500 to 2,000 acres of land in this county, as well as considerable city property at Rockford. He was a friend of Thatcher Blake and Deacon Cory, and was associated in business with both of them. He oftentimes drove to Chicago for supplies and was a well known figure to those living along the road. He and Mr. Blake were the executors of the will of Deacon Cory.

HALL, John H., page 708.

HALL, Wright C. Concerted effort painstakingly directed along legitimate lines, will result in success. Many have proven this in their lives, and among them is Wright C. Hall, now living retired at Rockford, who for a number of years was an alert business man. He was born at Hatley, Quebec, Canada, December 14, 1829, a son of Luther and Olive (Chamberlin) Hall, natives of Vermont.

Wright C. Hall was educated in a Canadian academy, and in 1846 went to New York City where he worked in Fulton market for two months, when he left for Albany, N. Y., and there learned the machinist trade. He finally went into a tin, copper and sheet iron business, and remained in that city until 1852, when, attracted by the West, he came to Rockford, and had charge of C. L. Williams & Sons' manufacturing plant for two years. He then went to Sterling, Ill., and with George O. Blakesley started the first hardware store of that place. The firm was burned out in 1857, and Mr. Hall then sold his interest, and moved to Byron, Ogle County, Ill., where he farmed for thirty-two years. Selling his farm, he moved back to Rockford and for a time was a commercial traveler for an agricultural implement firm, but then retired, and since 1890, has resided on Independence avenue, this city.

On June 29, 1854, Mr. Hall was married to Ellen Hodges, born in Oneida County, N. Y., a daughter of the Rev. James and Hanna (Perry) Hodges, natives of Vermont. With their seven children Mr. and Mrs. Hodges left New York in 1845, going by boat to Chicago and overland from there to Rockford, Mrs. Hodges and the smaller children riding on top of the load of packing boxes and Mr. Hodges and his son walking by the side of the load, sometimes traveling until ten o'clock before finding a tavern where they could stay for the night. Mr. and Mrs. Hall became the parents of the following children: Anna, who is Mrs. George Csaky of Oakland, Cal.; Carrie, who is the widow of Col. Bentley, of Seward, Ill.; Stella, who resides with her parents; Marian, who is Mrs. Frank Osborn of Winnebago Township; Fred H., who is deceased; and Effie, who is Mrs. Alfred Hand of Hinkley avenue, Rockford.

While living in Byron Township, Ogle County, Ill., Mr. Hall served as a school director and trustee, and for fourteen years was township assessor, being elected on the Republican ticket. He is a Mason in his fraternal affiliations. During his long and useful life Mr. Hall has done his full duty as he saw it and has won appreciation and respect, and is justly numbered among the substantial and representative men of Winnebago County.

HALLEN, Conrad, a man of the utmost probity, who stands very high in his neighborhood and is recognized as one of the capable business men of Rockford, is a prosperous meat dealer on Fourteenth avenue. He was born in Oster Gotland, Sweden, April 8, 1875, a son of John and Augusta (Farb) Hallen. John Hallen was born in Upsala, Sweden, and the mother in Smolan, Sweden, and they were married in the latter place. During his early life, John Hallen was the proprietor of a general store, and later became government manager in an abstract and title office, which position he still holds. At one time he served in the Swedish army as a cavalryman. For a time he was also engaged as a photographer. The mother of Conrad Hallen died when he was eighteen months old.

Conrad Hallen was reared in Oster Gotland and there educated. When he was fourteen years old he came to the United States, and arrived at Rockford July 4, 1889. His first year in this city was spent as an employee of the Co-operative Furniture Company, and he then went to Alta, Iowa, where he worked as a farm hand for a short time, but then returned to Rockford, in 1895, and was with the Palace Folding Bed Company for three years. He then went to Chicago where he worked as a clerk in a meat market in order to finish learning the meat business, which he had partially learned in Sweden. Later he bought out one of his employers and the firm became Hallen & Lindstrom, and he maintained this connection until 1904. In that year he sold his interests, and

returned to Rockford and purchasing the business owned by Victor Carson on Seventh street, conducted it for three months when he sold it back to the man from whom he had purchased it, and went to work for John Anderson, on Kishwaukee street. After a year with him, Mr. Hallen established his own business, on the corner of Tenth avenue and Seventh street, and there remained until 1908, when he opened his present market.

In 1901 Mr. Hallen was married to Miss Hilda Nordstrom, a daughter of John and Matilda Nordstrom of Chicago, natives of Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Hallen have had four children, as follows: Mildred C. M., Eskil J. C., Fern V., and Bertle, who died at Rockford, aged one year and eleven days. Mr. Hallen belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, the Svithiod, the Lyran Society and the Labor and Let Live Society.

HALLOCK, Frank W. The professional men of Rockford form an important contingent of the population, and among them none stands higher in public esteem than does Frank W. Hallock, a reliable druggist, doing business at No. 402 E. State street. He was born at Osceola, Stark County, Ill., September 19, 1881, a son of William and Alice (Ketcham) Hallock. The father was born at Paw Paw, Ill., where he was educated, and there, with his father, followed farming until 1878. In that year he branched out for himself and remained at Osceola until his death, in 1882. He was a Republican politically, and was a consistent member of the Baptist Church. The mother was born also at Paw Paw, Ill., where her father was engaged in farming. She was educated at that place and remained at home until her marriage.

Growing up in his native place, Frank W. Hallock attended the public schools, and then entered the Northwestern University, where he took a course in pharmacy, being graduated therefrom in 1904. For a short time thereafter, Mr. Hallock was connected with a Chicago drug store, and then returned to Paw Paw. For the next two years he was a clerk in a drug store at that place, and then came to Rockford, and was a clerk for C. W. Gustafson for six years. He then became associated with Mr. Jackson in a partnership, the two buying out the Keeling Drug Store, at No. 402 E. State street, where they are continuing to carry on a prosperous business.

In 1904 Mr. Hallock was married to Miss Laura B. Knetsch, a daughter of Fred and Mary (Kleinschmidt) Knetsch, and they have two children: Orville H. and Donald W. Mr. Hallock is a very capable young man and his methods are such as to commend him to the general public.

HANCE, Earl C., engineer for the Illinois School Furniture Company of Rockford, with residence at No. 1249 Ferguson street, is a native son of the county, and a man who has proven himself worthy of the confidence reposed in him by his employers, who have large interests where he

has charge. He was born in Winnebago County, December 8, 1866, a son of Royal and Elizabeth (Kellog) Hance, natives of Ohio and New York.

After attending the country schools, Earl C. Hance worked in his father's sawmill until he attained his majority, and then came to Rockford to enter the employ of the Burson Knitting Company. Later he was with B. F. Barnes & Company, and on February 3, 1915, came to the Illinois School Furniture Company as engineer, and is giving universal satisfaction, for he is a capable and reliable man.

On June 13, 1889, Mr. Hance was married in Winnebago County to Hattie Martin, and they have the following children: Floyd, Clifford and Mildred, all of whom are at home. Mr. Hance belongs to the Odd Fellows in all its branches, the Court of Honor and the order of Owls. In politics he is a Republican. A man of more than usual ability, he turned his attention toward perfecting himself in a congenial line of work, and stands very high with all who know him.

HANCE, Ogden, who during life was one of the highly respected residents of Pecatonica, was the first white child born in Winnebago County, that event taking place October 21, 1836, in Pecatonica Township. His father, Thomas Hance, one of the pioneers of the township, erected a log cabin on his land, and in it Ogden was born.

The paternal grandfather, Adam Hance, lived in the vicinity of Sandusky, Ohio, and there he reared his eleven children. His son Thomas, however, was not satisfied with his old home, and in the fall of 1833, began exploring for a new one, visiting northern Illinois. So pleased was he with the land and climate that he found, that he went back for his wife and child, and returned in the spring of 1834, settling in Pecatonica Township, where he took up land from the government. He died at Pecatonica, July 13, 1886. He married Phoebe DeWitt, a native of Ohio, in 1831. She survived her husband until July 19, 1889. There were seven children in their family and all but two are deceased. They were reared in the faith of the Methodist church to which their parents belonged. They early were taught to make themselves useful and assisted their father in clearing the land and placing it under cultivation. While the hardships were many, their rewards were great, and they developed into useful members of society. The family was so poor when location was first made in Winnebago County that in order to secure the money to pay for his claim, the father had to plow furrows about a number of claims owned by his more fortunate neighbors, but he lived to attain to prosperity, and died surrounded by many comforts. Politically he was a Democrat, and served as supervisor and assessor for twenty years.

On August 17, 1862, Ogden Hance was married at Rockford by Judge Miller, to Amanda V. Armstrong who was born in Washington, Richland County, Ohio, a daughter of James

and Catherine (Shoup) Armstrong, and granddaughter of William and Elizabeth (Kennie) Armstrong, the latter of whom resided in Ohio until their death. James Armstrong moved from Ohio to Stephenson County, Ill., in 1841, and there entered land from the government, living on it for twenty-five years, when he went to Iowa. While on a visit in Nebraska he died May 24, 1884, aged seventy-seven years, three months and one day. His wife died in Iowa October 4, 1872, aged fifty-four years, four months and thirteen days. They had eleven children, five of whom survive. Mr. Armstrong served as a justice of the peace for about twenty-five years, and was the first school teacher, singing school teacher and writing master at Rock Run, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Hance had two children, namely: Edgar L. and Myrta F. The former was born August 26, 1863, and was graduated from the Chicago Union Law School June 16, 1886, and for twenty years was connected with the firm of Kerr & Barr of Chicago. He died August 21, 1910, having been a talented lawyer and able man. The daughter was born in Pecatonica Township, May 5, 1868. She was married (first) to S. B. Niles, October 15, 1885, and had one daughter, Rue V., who was born May 29, 1887. This young lady is now one of the efficient teachers of the Pecatonica public schools. Myrta L. was married (second) to J. M. Marks, in 1904.

On May 15, 1913, Ogden Hance passed away, aged seventy-seven years, and his remains were interred in the Pecatonica cemetery. He was very active in charitable work and encouraged his wife in her connection with the W. C. T. U. of which she was a useful member. His life was well spent, and dying he left a record for good citizenship of which his family may well be proud.

HANSON, John Arvid, foreman of the fine regulator department of the Haddorff Piano Company, with residence at No. 507 Washington street, is one of the substantial men of Rockford, and a man in whom all have the utmost confidence. He was born in Sweden, August, 29, 1883, and there received his educational training. Until he was nineteen years old he gave his parents the aid of his services but then left them and came to the United States, arriving here in 1903. For three months he stopped at Wellsville, Ohio, where he worked in a rolling mill, and then came on to Rockford and was with the Forest City shoe factory for a short time, when he associated himself with the Scandia Furniture Company, with which he continued for one year as veneerman. During one summer he worked on the outside at the mason trade and painting, and then engaged with his present company, his faithfulness and skill being rewarded in 1913 when he was made foreman of his department which position he has since retained.

He was married to Edith Yetterberg, born in Sweden, and their children are as follows: Sterling, William and Eunice, who are at home. Industrious and skilled, Mr. Hanson has steadily

risen and has earned all he today possesses through his own unaided efforts.

HANSON, Martin, engineer of the Rockford Bookcase Company, with residence at No. 922 Seventh street, owns that and other property, and thus is a man of financial standing, all he possesses however, being the result of his industry and thrift. He was born in Sweden, September 13, 1858. During his boyhood he attended school in his native land, and came to the United States in 1881. Feeling the need of scientific training to pursue the calling he desired he took a course in engineering at the Scranton (Pa.) School of Correspondence. While in Sweden he worked on farms, and until he received professional training as above mentioned was employed at farm labor in Winnebago County. In 1883 he entered the McKinny Paper Mill and was made engineer a little later on of the factory of Mandard Brothers, manufacturers of plumbing supplies. From then on he served as engineer at different plants until 1902, when he was made engineer for his present company. Among other concerns for which Mr. Hanson has worked are: the Forest City Electric Light Company, the Rockford Water Works, the Peacock Brewery, the Marston Development Company, the Forest City Furniture Company, and the Star Furniture Company, so his experience has been extended and varied.

Mr. Hanson was married at Rockford in 1887 to Matilda Ahlgren, born in Sweden, and their children are: Vera, Magda and Lillian, the last two now being nurses at the Chicago Hospital. Mr. Hanson belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. The Republican party has his support. Mr. Hanson owns an automobile, and possesses sufficient means to enjoy his leisure moments.

HARLEY, William, now deceased, was for many years one of the prosperous and energetic farmers of Winnebago County, and during his later years an honored resident of Rockton. He was born at New York City, N. Y., November 9, 1835, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Avcott) Harley of England. The father came to New York City about 1816, and worked there as a cabinetmaker until about 1836, when he moved to South Carolina. In 1844 he came to Illinois, and bought a farm in Rockton Township, Winnebago County, which he operated, and he also worked at his trade at Beloit, Wis., but his death occurred on the farm. The mother continued to reside with her son William until her death.

William Harley was third youngest of the eleven children born to his parents, and lived with them until the year following his marriage, when he bought a farm in Sherland Township and cultivated it until March, 1895, when he rented the farm to his son, and moved to Rockton, Ill. There he bought an old fashioned stone house which has been remodeled

and made into a modern residence. Here he lived retired until his death, March 30, 1904.

On December 24, 1858, Mr. Harley was married to Fidelia Miller, born at Ryegate, Vt., February 28, 1838, a daughter of Alexander and Mary (Mackie) Miller, born in Vermont and Scotland, respectively. Mrs. Miller was brought to Vermont by her parents when sixteen years old. Mr. and Mrs. Miller came to Rockton in 1844, and he worked as a carpenter until 1851, when he bought a farm in Sherland Township, and there died. Mr. and Mrs. Harley had the following children: Henry, who was born February 21, 1860, died February 9, 1904; Edwin, who was born August 23, 1862, died August 23, 1863; Freddie, who was born October 10, 1864, died May 17, 1865; and Ella, who was born September 28, 1866, has always lived with her mother in the family home at Rockton. Mr. Harley was a charter member of the Methodist Church at Rockton, and also in Sherland Township, and always was a member of the official church board. He was a Republican, and was prominent in politics, serving as supervisor, assessor, town clerk and school director of Sherland Township. A man of high principles and great industry, he fairly earned the position he occupied in the esteem of those with whom he was associated, and his memory is cherished by many.

HARPER, Walter S. Were it not for the enterprise and acumen of Rockford's business men it is very doubtful if this city would have attained to anything like its present importance and prosperity. One of these men undoubtedly is Walter S. Harper, owner and manager of Rockford's leading paint and decorating store, located at the corner of W. State and Winnebago streets. He was born at Dayton, Ohio, April 9, 1858, a son of William and Lydia (Watts) Harper.

William Harper was born near Dayton, Ohio, March 15, 1835, and after receiving his educational training, he became a large landowner and an extensive farmer. On September 16, 1852, he married, his wife being a daughter of Samuel and Martha M. Watts, the ceremony taking place at Nottingham, Ind. After his marriage William Harper continued farming until his enlistment at Indianapolis, in the Union army for service during the Civil war, and after four years he was honorably discharged. Returning to his farm he continued on it until 1870 when he moved to Camden, Ind., and engaged in a hotel and livery business for ten years. He also operated farm lands in connection with his other interests, and in 1880 moved to Geneva, Ind., where he again embarked in a hotel business, retiring after some years. He died at the age of seventy-five years, July 17, 1910. His wife died January 28, 1908. He was an Odd Fellow and a member of the G. A. R. In politics he was a Republican.

Walter S. Harper was educated in the public



Mr & Mrs. W. B. Allen

schools of Camden and Winchester, Ind., attending them until he was sixteen years old, at which time he began serving his apprenticeship in the painting and decorating business at Winchester, later becoming a carriage painter and worked at that trade for thirteen years. In 1886 he came to Rockford where he engaged with the Emerson-Talcott Implement Company as foreman and manager of their painting department, and so continued for four years. On April 1, 1890, he resigned his position to buy out George Fowler, decorator, who was located at No. 315 W. State street, and occupied this store for two years. Mr. Harper then moved to Nos. 125-7 N. Main street, in the Henry block. On October 9, 1895, he had the misfortune to be burned out. He then took a position with the Wadsworth-Howland Company, of Chicago, dealers in paints and colors, and traveled for this concern in Indiana, and in the following spring he moved his family to Indianapolis so as to be nearer his business territory. In 1897 he resigned and returned to Rockford, where he again established himself in the painting and decorating business, in the Mendelssohn Hall building, at No. 513 W. State street, where he remained until October 1, 1907, when he secured his present quarters at Nos. 601-3 W. State street, having erected a building suitable for his business. He carries the most complete lines of paint, wall paper and painters' supplies in the city.

In 1880 Mr. Harper was married to Miss Mary E. Howard, who died in 1902, a daughter of George and Jane (Burns) Howard, who are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Harper had two children: Frank H., who was born April 10, 1885; and Catherine J., who was born August 24, 1894. Mr. Harper married (second) Miss Joan D. Lippi. Mr. Harper belongs to Rockford Lodge, A. F. & A. M. and Winnebago Chapter, R. A. M., being chairman of the committee for building the Masonic Temple.

HARRIS, James N. Although some of the most reliable and desirable of Rockford's citizens have retired from the activities of life, they did not do so until they had achieved success along some line, such as manufacturing wagons and carriages and paper manufacturing. One of these is James N. Harris, although he has been interested in other things as well. He was born in Pembrokehire, South Wales, England, November 16, 1847, a son of Henry and Margaret (Nash) Harris who died in Wales.

All the educational training James N. Harris received was obtained during a nine months' school and a night school after he came to the United States, so that he is really self trained, but possessing more than ordinary intelligence he has kept himself well posted. In 1866 with his brother John, James N. Harris came to this country, and located at Mineral Point, Wis., where he learned the wood-wagon working trade and lived there until 1873, in that year coming to Rockford, where he was employed for eight

years by Reeves & Dumphrey in the carriage factory. He was also in the employ of Levi Rhoades for sixteen years. He bought a farm three miles south of Rockford, and operated it for a time, but now rents it out. Since 1873, although interested at other points, he has made Rockford his home, and for the past ten years he has lived retired, his residence at No. 615 Mulberry street being one of the finest in the city.

In January, 1879, Mr. Harris was married to Lucinda H. Rhoades, born at Rockford, a daughter of Levi and Fredericka (Reik) Rhoades. Mr. and Mrs. Harris have one daughter, Florence Luella, who is at home. Mr. Harris belongs to the Methodist Church. In politics he is a Republican. For some years he has been a director of the Peoples Bank of Rockford, and has always lived up faithfully to the obligations placed on his shoulders. Few men have accomplished more from such small beginnings as Mr. Harris, and he well deserves the success which has come to him.

HARRIS, Jesse F., cashier of the Citizens State Bank of Durand, is one of the able financiers of Winnebago County and a man who stands very high in public confidence. He was born July 3, 1867, a son of Elisha and Calista (Robb) Harris, both born in Ohio, in 1818 and 1822, respectively.

In 1837 Elisha Harris came, with others from his home locality, to Winnebago County, Ill., making most of the trip on foot, driving stock. Immediately following his arrival he took up 160 acres of government land in Durand Township, one and one-half miles south of the village of Durand. At that time his farm was wild land, which he broke, and otherwise improved, making it his home until death claimed him in 1902. Soon after he came here he was married to Calista Robb, who was a daughter of Scott and Lavina (Preston) Robb. The Robbs came overland from Ohio to Winnebago County in 1836. Scott Robb took up government land two miles southeast of Durand village, which he improved and lived upon until he died at the age of sixty-two years. Mrs. Harris died in 1882.

The following children were born to Elisha and Calista (Robb) Harris: Henry, who served in the Union army during the Civil war as a private in Company D, Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry; Erastus, who served in the same command and died at Murphreysboro; Eugene, who lives at Seattle, Wash.; Lewis, who died in Kansas; Julia, who died at the age of eighteen years; Charles, who is deceased; Scott, who is also deceased; Willis, who lives at Sycamore, Ill.; Elmer, who lives at Grand Junction, Col.; and Jesse F.

Jesse F. Harris was reared on the home farm and attended the country schools, and later the graded school at Durand, following which he taught school in this county for several years. He then attended the State Normal school at Normal, Ill., and for the following five years

was a teacher in the Durand school, thirteen years in all being devoted to scholastic work. In 1902 Mr. Harris was made cashier of the Citizens Bank at Durand, owned by H. M. Schorb, and so continued until 1913, when he spent six months at Grand Junction, Col., from which place he returned to accept the position of cashier of the Citizens State Bank of Durand, which had been organized during his absence, which place he continues to fill very acceptably. The bank has a capital stock of \$30,000, a surplus of \$3,000, deposits of \$100,000, and bills receivable of \$100,000. The officers are: A. E. Swinson, president; W. H. Randall, vice president; Jesse F. Harris, cashier; and M. B. Dolan, assistant cashier. The directors include the above and A. J. Best, E. D. Shakey, E. H. Boomer, Roy Cross, George Meier and Dr. F. J. Lins.

In 1899 Mr. Harris was married to Miss Florence Brenton of Beloit, Wis., a daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. L. Brenton of Beloit. Mr. Harris attends the Methodist church and is a teacher in the Sunday school. Fraternally he belongs to the Odd Fellows and Mystic Workers of the World. While he is a Republican, he has never taken an active part in public matters, his private affairs absorbing his time and attention.

HART, George L. Some men are fortunate enough to secure the homestead of their forefathers, and to spend their lives amid familiar surroundings. All are not accorded such privileges, but among those who are thus favored is George L. Hart of Winnebago Township, who was born on his present farm in Winnebago Township, July 7, 1882, a son of Cornelius and Bridget (Regan) Hart. The parents were born in Ireland, but were married at Rockford, following which they located in Burritt Township buying a farm which they conducted for five years. They then sold and bought 240 acres in Winnebago Township. The father retired in 1909, and died in December, 1912. The mother died December 11, 1911. They had thirteen children, of whom George L. Hart was the eleventh in order of birth.

George L. Hart attended the schools of his township, and the Winnebago High School, following which he took a commercial course at the Rockford Business College. He has always taken an active interest in educational matters and was a school director for three years. In politics he is a Democrat. St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church has in him a warm supporter and faithful member.

On April 10, 1911, Mr. Hart was married to Elise Hyden, born at Chicago, a daughter of Frederick Hyden, and they have one son,—Cornelius Leo, who was born May 21, 1913. Mr. Hart has developed into one of the progressive agriculturists of Winnebago County and stands very high among his neighbors.

HARVEY, Harold, M. D. Modern research and the diffusion of education has awakened an interest in the possible preservation of health that

has resulted in a better appreciation of the science of medicine and the services rendered by its practitioners to humanity, and a consequent more intelligent recognition of the debt owed by any community to its medical men. Rockford in particular should render due meed of this appreciation to the members of its medical profession for they have always ranked among its most useful citizens, and one worthy of special mention because of this and other qualities is Dr. Harold Harvey, of No. 503 W. State street. He was born in Colchester, Conn., August 13, 1888, a son of William E. and Annie (Foote) Harvey, natives of Connecticut. The father is deceased, but during life was a farmer. The mother survives and makes her home at Chestnut Hill, Conn.

Harold Harvey attended the public schools of his native place, the Windham high school and Heald's College, at San Jose, Cal., from which latter he was graduated in 1910. He then entered the University of Vermont, at Burlington, and later Bennett Medical College, Chicago, from which institution he was graduated in 1914, with the degree of M. D., and took high honors in his class. Dr. Harvey chose to attend Bennett Medical College because its president, Dr. John Dill Robertson, is his cousin. However, he practically made his own way through college, earning the money to pay for his course, receiving but little assistance from anyone, so deserves all the more credit for what he has accomplished. For the succeeding three months after graduation, he did post graduate work at the Chicago Union Hospital, coming then to Rockford. He established himself in practice in this city, where he is still located. He is a member of Loyola University. The Congregationist Church holds his membership. Dr. Harvey is unmarried.

HASKELL, George, page 654.

HASKIN, Daniel. Some of the most substantial and highly respected citizens of Winnebago County are those who, having spent their active years in tilling the soil, are now residents of Rockford, where they are enjoying the comforts of urban life. One of these who is specially worthy of mention is Daniel Haskin, a retired agriculturalist. He was born on the farm of his father in Harlem Township, this county, November 7, 1860, a son of Charles and Mary W. (Atwood) Haskin, and a grandson of Amos and Lovisa (Bille) Haskin. The paternal grandfather operated a grist-mill at Washington, Mass. A son became a stone workman and built 80 rods of a stone wall around the property owned by the Shaker Society, at New Lebanon, Mass. He also made his own tombstone, and had it ready for use when he died.

Charles Haskin, father of Daniel Haskin, was born at Washington, Berkshire County, Mass., in 1817. He was reared at home and was bound out to his brother Orin, but went for himself when aged sixteen years. On August 29, 1841, he was married in Jefferson County, N. Y.,

his wife being a daughter of Phineas and Hulda (Haskell) Atwood. This marriage resulted in four children: Amos, Emily L., Wright and Daniel. Of these, Amos enlisted in Company A, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry for service during the Civil War, and died at Huntsville, Ala. Emily L. died in 1893 and Wright died in infancy. In 1841, Charles Haskin came to Illinois, and bought eighty acres in Harlem Township, from the government. He also rented additional land, and within a few years was able to purchase 160 acres more for which he paid seven dollars per acre. On this he lived until 1882, when he moved to Rockford, where he bought a valuable lot at No. 415 East street, and lived there until his death in 1903, when he was eighty-six years old. Mrs. Haskin survived her husband until the middle of 1904, passing away aged eighty-six years. Charles Haskin was a Republican and served as a justice of the peace, assessor, commissioner of highways and as a member of the school board. Belonging to the Methodist Church, he liberally assisted in erecting the church edifice of that denomination at Harlem, and also the Centennial Church at Rockford. The father of Mrs. Haskin was a local preacher, by trade was a blacksmith at Hinsdale, Berkshire County, Mass., where Mrs. Haskin was born November 21, 1819.

Daniel Haskin grew up in Harlem Township where he attended the public schools. On December 14, 1881, he was married to Miss Frances L. Hall, a daughter of Jonathan and Lauretta (Roth) Hall. She died in 1889, when thirty-two years old. They had two children, namely: Bernice who died in 1882; and Emily Fern who was born in 1885, married Edmond Ruh of Rockford, and they reside in that city at No. 2034 Cumberland street. On September 30, 1891, Mr. Haskin married (second) Miss Florence Paulton, a daughter of Thomas and Sarah E. (Patterson) Paulton. Mr. and Mrs. Haskin became the parents of three children as follows: Charles T., Marjorie E. and Stanton D.

When his father retired to Rockford, Mr. Haskin took charge of the farm and continued on it until 1896, when he moved to Rockford. At first he lived in rented property, but later built a comfortable residence on East State street. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen, and the Odd Fellows and is popular in both orders. His political convictions make him a Republican. He has always been active in the Centennial Methodist Church.

HATCH, W. Grant., M. D. The complications and multiplicities of medical science have induced a number of the most distinguished practitioners to specialize along certain definite lines so as to be able to become expert in those diseases to which they have given particular attention. Experience and experiment have taught the profession much and thus conscientious general practitioners are apt to refer the majority of their more serious cases to those

physicians and surgeons who have proved especially skillful in certain lines. One of the most successful eye, ear, nose and throat specialists of Rockford, is Dr. W. Grant Hatch, whose office is in the Trust Building, at No. 1419 National avenue. He was born at Kilbourn City, Wis., May 2, 1869, a son of David M. and Harriet S. (Butterfield) Hatch, natives of New York state. The mother is deceased, but the father survives and makes his home at Kilbourn City.

After being graduated from the high school of his native place, W. Grant Hatch began teaching, in 1890, so continuing until 1894, when he entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1897, with the degree of M. D. He then located at Prairie City, Ill., and spent four and one-half years in practice there, after which he went to Europe and for nearly two years studied at Vienna, Austria, on diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. Upon his return he attended the Knapp clinics in New York City, to further perfect himself. In 1902 he located at Rockford, where he has since continued, limiting himself to the specialties mentioned above. Dr. Hatch was awarded the Brainerd medal at Rush Medical College in 1896, and has always been a close student. He belongs to the Winnebago Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and is on the staff of St. Anthony's Hospital. For one year he served the Winnebago Medical Society as vice president and for another year was its presiding officer. Fraternally he belongs to the Masonic order and the order of Elks. Dr. Hatch is a director in the Andrews Wire & Iron Works.

In 1898 Dr. Hatch was married at Milwaukee, Wis., to Amy F. Elwell of that city, and they have had three daughters: Harriet R., Eleanor P. and Beatrice R., deceased.

HAUGHTON, Thomas D., a substantial agriculturalist of section 36, Durand Township, and a man who stands high in the estimation of his fellow citizens, was born in Cheshire, England, December 6, 1832, a son of Aaron and Harriet (Derwent) Haughton. These parents were married in England where four of their children were born. The father was a mason by trade. On April 23, 1841, the family left Liverpool, England, for America, spending their first year after landing in the state of New York, the father finding employment on the aqueduct being built over the Genesee River, at Rochester, N. Y. In 1842 they came by canal to Buffalo, thence to Chicago by the lake, and from Chicago drove to Winnebago County, Ill.

While in New York state, the maternal grandfather, Thomas Derwent, had joined the family, and he came with them to Winnebago County. While traveling on the Erie Canal, Mr. Derwent became acquainted with a man named James Colton, who owned a claim in Durand Township and Pecatonica Township, and from him Mr. Derwent bought nearly a sec-

tion of land in these two townships. A few acres had been broken, but it was largely timber land and white oak openings. Log houses were built, with the help of other settlers, and Mr. Derwent built a stone house in which the balance of his life, which was not a long period, was lived. John, William and Samuel Derwent came with their father to Winnebago County, at first, and Thomas and Edmund followed the next year. The eldest Derwent and all his sons were mechanics and soon after they located in the county, they quarried the stone from which they built the above house.

Prior to the death of Thomas Derwent, Aaron Haughton had bought from him 120 acres of land in Duraud Township and Pecatonica Township, on which he built a stone house. About four years after the Haughtons came here, Mrs. Harriet (Derwent) Haughton died. She was the mother of: Thomas D., Aaron, Mary, Nye, Eunice and Samuel. Later Aaron Haughton married for his second wife, Mary Ann Barningham. By the second marriage there were three children, namely: Sarah, Clara and Henry. Of the nine children, only Thomas D., Clara and Henry are living.

Aaron Haughton improved his farm, adding forty acres to it, which he bought from Austin Coulton. He also did a good deal of work at his trade in Rockford, helping to erect many of the oldest buildings now standing in that city. His death occurred in 1888, when he was seventy-six years old. He and his wife were members of the Church of England. In politics he was a Republican.

Thomas D. Haughton was nine years old when the family came to Winnebago County, and had already attended school in England and New York state, and after his arrival here, he attended school in a little log schoolhouse later erected in his neighborhood, it being one of the largest pioneer schools in the county at that period. Prior to this, however, he had been given some instruction in a little school that was held in the home of his grandfather, Thomas Derwent, the latter being the teacher. When the log schoolhouse was built it was considered a great achievement although it lacked all ordinary comforts. The boys and girls sat on slab seats on different sides of the room, and the greater part of the time necessarily with their backs to the teacher.

Thomas D. Haughton remained at home until February 21, 1855, when he was married to Miss Agnes Sarver, of Harrison Township, a daughter of Henry and Elenor (Hauek) Sarver, who came to Harrison Township in 1847, from Huutington County, Pa. Mrs. Haughton was born April 16, 1837, at Broadtop, Pa. With her parents and three brothers and grandfather, John Sarver, she came to Winnebago County, by stage to Pittsburgh, then by water to Savannah, Ill., from which point the travelers drove through to Harrison Township. Mrs. Haughton, who died May 31, 1914, was one of a large family, the following members surviving her: Mrs. Johu Derwent, Mrs. Alec Derwent, Mrs.

Jaynes, and four brothers, Rayme, Carr, Alec and Ross. Mr. and Mrs. Haughton had the following children: Everett, who died in 1895, aged forty years; Emily, who married J. G. Barningham and died when about thirty years old, leaving a son, Lloyd J.; and Dell, who is the wife of James Derwent, has a son, Ralph. Lloyd J. Barningham married Cora Patterson, a daughter of Niles Patterson of Durand and they have a daughter, Helen Agnes. They now have charge of the farm, and Mr. Haughton lives with them.

After marriage Mr. Haughton bought an eighty-acre tract of land in Harrison Township for \$4 per acre, and there he and his wife lived until 1860, when they moved on a sixty-acre tract he purchased near his former farm, and there they continued until in 1870, when he bought his present farm of 200 acres. The present stone house was under way but not completed, and Mr. Haughton finished it and erected the other buildings and made many additional improvements. He has added to his original 200 acres until he now has about 500 acres. When he came to the county all the marketing was done at Chicago, 100 miles away, and it took about a week to make the trip. At one time Mr. Haughton's father took thirty-seven bushels of wheat to Chicago, for which he received fifty cents per bushel, and that he spent for groceries and provisions, and, as Mr. Haughton says, "brought it all home in a two-bushel sack." The first years were full of hardships. It was not until 1853 that the steam railroad came to Rockford, and it was three years more before it reached Durand.

In childhood Mr. Haughton was baptized into the Church of England. Politically he is a Democrat, and has served as road commissioner and as school director. He is one of the few surviving pioneers of the county and if there was space, many interesting incidents of those days as related by him would be inserted. He has seen many changes. When he came here there were few farm implements, all the plowing being done with single shovel plows drawn by oxen.

HAYNES, Walter, foreman of the National Plating Company, with residence at No. 1318 Benton street, is one of the substantial, reliable men and expert workmen of Rockford, and a man who stands high in public estimation. He was born in Nebraska, February 27, 1882, and there educated in the country schools. His first experience in work was when he assisted his father on the farm, continuing to be so engaged until he reached his majority. He then worked at various things in his own neighborhood until 1906, when he went to Omaha, Neb., and was there engaged in the manufacture of gasoline lamps and systems for five years, leaving in 1911 to come to Rockford. Here he engaged with the Rockford Plating Company, and remained with that concern for over a year, leaving to come to the National Plating Company to become foreman, since which time he has remained



P. W. Welch.

with this company to the satisfaction of all concerned.

On November 28, 1911, Mr. Haynes was married at Rockford to Ruth N. Reeher, and they have had two children, namely: one who died in infancy; and Alice V. Mr. Haynes attends Trinity Lutheran Church. In politics he is a Republican. Owning city property, Mr. Haynes is a man in prosperous circumstances, and all that he has, he has earned through his own, unaided efforts.

HELMS, Alexander, an engineer for the St. Paul Railroad at Rockford, with residence at No. 1515 Elm street, possesses the conventional virtues in fullest measure, as is exemplified in his achievements and successes. He was born at Berlin, Wis., April 16, 1863, a son of William and Mary Mumbleau Helms, natives of Aurora, Ill., and St. Ann, Ill. The father was a millwright. He enlisted during the Civil war, in the Fourth Illinois Infantry, and participated in the battle of Gettysburg. His brother, Alexander, met his death in this battle. After serving for two years, William Helms was honorably discharged and came home. Following his return, he married and resumed work at his trade. Later he bought a farm at Winneconne, Wis., which he conducted until his retirement, but he continued to reside on the farm until his death, July 6, 1891. In politics he was a Republican. His wife survived him, dying August 12, 1908, aged sixty-seven years.

Alexander Helms was reared in Milwaukee, Wis. There he entered the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad as brakeman in 1881, was made fireman in 1887 and was promoted to engineer in 1892. He was on freight until 1904, since which he has been on passenger trains. In 1898 he moved to Janesville, Wis., and lived for twelve years. He then came to Rockford and was connected with the Rochelle (Southern division) road when it was being constructed, and was one of four engineers employed on this work at Davis Junction. When the road was completed, he was the first man to take his engine over it, its number being 1356.

In 1888 Mr. Helms was married to Miss Alice Burke, a daughter of John and Bridget (Boyle) Burke, and they have had seven children as follows: John William, who was killed by a train at Walworth, Wis., and Joseph, Gladys, Anna, Rachel, Aloysius and Edna. Mr. Helms belongs to the order of Locomotive Engineers and the Columbia Knights. He is connected with the Forest City Life Insurance Company. There are few engineers in the employ of the road who are held in higher esteem than Mr. Helms. His long period of service combined with his faithfulness and reliability have placed him among those who can be trusted, and his record is one that he may well take a pride in having made.

HENRY, Albert E. The late Albert E. Henry, long one of the substantial and conscientious

business men of Rockford, was worthy of the esteem which his fellow citizens express in recalling him. He was born at Plymouth, Mass., in July, 1858, a son of John Martin and Ursula Henry. A sketch of the Henry family is given elsewhere in this work. Albert E. Henry was the youngest of the children of his parents, and was sent to the Rockford public schools until he was fourteen years old, the family having located in Winnebago County when he was still a child.

With the completion of his school course, he entered the store of Beal Brothers, jewelers, as an apprentice, as he was mechanically inclined, and he learned the trade thoroughly in all its branches. So anxious was he to become proficient in his trade that when his employers were willing to release him, he insisted upon remaining two years longer. In 1878 he began business on his own account, renting a window in a store, and repairing watches and jewelry and engraving silver and gold articles. He soon built up a reputation for expert work, and all of the jewelers sent their repairing to him. His business so expanded that in 1888 he rented the store at No. 104 W. State street, put in a stock of jewelry, and success attended him, and in 1905 he erected the present building at No. 118 W. State street, where he was located at the time of his death. He was very successful and accumulated a large estate. He owned the property occupied by the Rockford Electric Company, and the magnificent residence, the home of Mrs. Henry, at No. 1057 Franklin Place, which he bought in 1910, having sold his former residence at No. 418 Peach street.

In February, 1890, Mr. Henry was married to Miss Anna Kauffman, born at Rockford, December 15, 1864, a daughter of August and Elizabeth (Katzung) Kauffman, natives of Germany, both of whom came to Rockford in their youth, and were married at Rockford, making their home in this city until 1885, when they went to San Diego, Cal., where the Kauffman family now resides. Mrs. Henry is one of the leading social factors in her neighborhood, and her beautiful home is hospitably open to her wide circle of friends.

HENRY, C. F., president of the C. F. Henry Clothing Company of Rockford, was born in the historic old town of Plymouth, in the home of Elder Brewster, the old gray house from which Love, Jonathan, Wrastling, Fear and Patience went out to found homes of their own. Every day in his childhood and youth, as he looked from the windows his eyes fell upon Captain's Hill, where history tells that the doughty little "Generalissimo of the Armies of Plymouth," was wont to stand and caress the iron muzzle of his beloved guns. In the attic and forgotten long ago, were three chests filled with relics of these staid old Pilgrim fathers and mothers of the Mayflower.

C. F. Henry came to Rockford with his sister, Mrs. Joseph Schmauss, when she returned from a visit to her old home, in 1864, and this city

has been his home from that day to this. He reached Rockford just in time to participate in the celebration of the final victories of the Union armies and the close of the war. He has a warm spot in his heart for Profs. Freeman and Blodgett, and the early day teachers who initiated him into the mysteries of learning in the old Rockford schools. His business career was begun in East State street, in the Leonard and Minzinger confectionery store, but he soon went from there into the old Wallach clothing store as a clerk, and from that day to this, with the exception of a short side trip into the crockery business with Henry Allen, his connection with the clothing business of Rockford has remained unbroken. He has been in his present quarters since 1881, long enough to make many of our citizens believe that he is the original preemptor of this corner. His store occupies 5,500 square feet of space with an additional two-story building in the rear.

The C. F. Henry Clothing Company is one of the largest establishments of its kind in this part of the state, and controls an immense volume of business. It was re-organized and incorporated in the spring of 1909 with a capital stock of \$100,000. The store is well equipped with all modern conveniences and appliances, and the company carries a full and varied line of trunks, valises and leather goods in addition to clothing and gents' furnishings, and since the fall of 1913, a large stock of men's and boys' shoes and rubbers. Not only is the stock carefully selected with regard to the demands of the customers, and the prevailing styles, but a service is given that is as nearly perfect as it is possible for it to be made. It is the policy of the management to render customers satisfied, for it is their contention that a customer who is pleased is the best advertisement any concern can have.

While he has spent much time and energy in developing the C. F. Henry Clothing Company, the clothing interests have not bounded Mr. Henry's business horizon. He was one of the organizers of the Insurance Company of the state of Illinois, and its president until this company sold out. He is now president of the Rockford Trust & Safety Deposit Company, the owners of the Rockford Trust building; and is president of the Rockford Mausoleum Company and vice president of the Rockford National Bank. With all these multitudinous duties, Mr. Henry has found time and opportunity to enjoy the social side of life. He is a member in good standing of the Masonic order, in which he has risen to one of the highest degrees, being a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner. He is also a member of the B. P. O. E., and was on the building committee that built and furnished the new home of that fraternity.

HERBERT, Charles H., proprietor of a planing mill, and a manufacturer of store fixtures and refrigerators, with residence on North Main street, Rockford, is a man who has known how to gauge public needs and supply them in a profitable way. He was born at Oregon, Ill., Septem-

ber 1, 1859, where he attended school. There he learned the carpenter trade and lived until 1888, when he moved to Lincoln Neb., and worked there at his trade for two years. He was then placed in charge of the state work at that point by Governor Thayer, and would have probably continued longer in Nebraska, but in 1894 his wife died, and he returned to Oregon, Ill., with her remains. He continued to reside at Oregon until 1906, when he came to Rockford and established himself in a grocery business which he conducted for a year and then went into a general contracting business which he continued until 1914. Realizing that there was a fine opening here for his present business, he embarked in this line, and is extending his interests annually. Mr. Herbert owns several pieces of valuable city property.

Mr. Herbert was married at Oregon, Ill., on December 25, 1880, by Judge Woodcock, to Jennie Elliott, born in Canada, September 11, 1859. She died March 8, 1894, mother of the following children: Raymond, who was born November 3, 1883, married Minnie Arbigast, and they have one son, Charles F.; Fred, who was born at Chicago, April 27, 1888; and Mary, who was born at Lincoln, Neb., October 9, 1889, married R. S. Campbell, lives in North Dakota, and they have three children, Charles, Helene and Ralph. Mr. Herbert was married (second) at Rockford, February 3, 1906, to Lillie M. Flemming, born at Morrison, Ill. They have a daughter, Ida M., who was born November 14, 1906. Mr. Herbert belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a Democrat.

HERRICK, Elijah L., page 659.

HERRICK, Stephen H., who for many years was an authority upon agricultural matters in different sections, is now one of the honored retired residents of Rockford. He was born at Milton, Chittenden County, Vt., October 20, 1836, a son of Phineas and Emily (Mears) Herrick. Phineas Herrick was born in Vermont in 1802, and was a farmer all his life with the exception of a short period in his early days when he was a bookbinder. He died at Milton, Vt., in 1885, aged eighty-three years. His wife survived him for three years, dying in 1888, aged eighty-three years. In politics Phineas Herrick was a Republican, and he belonged to the First Congregational Church of Milton, Vt. The parents of Mrs. Emily Herrick were born at Poultney, Vt., and became pioneers of Milton, Vt., where the father bought a farm of timber land which he cleared with the help of his sons, and operated it until his death at the age of seventy-two years, in 1841. The mother survived the father, and died at the age of ninety-two years.

Stephen H. Herrick spent his boyhood in Vermont, where he was educated. When he attained his majority, he came west and settled at Beloit, Wis., and taught school in that vicinity until the spring of 1857, when he went to Doniphan County, Kas., and continued to teach school for a short time, alternating that work with

labor in a sawmill. While in Kansas he pre-empted a claim of land in Brown County, and after selling it returned to Vermont, where he remained for a year. He then went to Newark, Wis., and spent another year. In January, 1863, he came to Rockford, Ill., and began farming in Rockford Township, so continuing for some years on rented land. He later bought 160 acres of land near Hays City, Kas., but sold it and then bought a farm in Winnebago County, conducting it for seven years. At the expiration of that period, he retired and rented his property. At one time he operated a dairy and sold milk at wholesale and retail, being successful in almost any line of business in which he cared to embark. While he now spends his winters in California or Florida, he makes Rockford his home. Mr. Herrick is a charter member of the Christian Union Church of Rockford. For forty years Mr. Herrick was on the Rockford Township school board. He was president of the Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin Bee Keepers' Association for many years.

On April 3, 1861, Mr. Herrick was married (first) to Emily Cadman, a daughter of George and Lydia Cadman, at Barkerville, Saratoga County, N. Y. She died in December, 1873, having had four children, namely: Dwight; Dora, with whom Mr. Herrick makes his home, is now Mrs. Lucks, residing at No. 201 North Winnebago street, Rockford; Louis A.; and Elmer. Mr. Cadman was an extensive farmer and sawmill operator who left Barkerville and moved to Beloit, Wis., where he died. In 1873, Mr. Herrick was married (second) to Miss Katherine Mandeville, a daughter of Dr. Mandeville, of Rockford Township, and they became the parents of six children as follows: Sarah and Charles, both of whom are deceased; Nettie, who died in infancy; Lizzie, who is the twin of Nettie; Ida; and Gertrude.

As October 20, 1915, was Mr. Herrick's eightieth birthday, it was celebrated by his friends in the form of a "shower" and he received seventy greeting cards and was called on by many friends. Reverend Connelly made a short address and Mr. Herrick responded. The occasion was one of kind feeling and will long be pleasantly remembered.

HERRING, Bergie, a contracting carpenter of Rockford, and a man who has made a business place for himself through natural ability, industrial integrity and practical experience, was born at Durand, Ill., January 30, 1871, a son of Simeon A. and Lois (Riley) Herring.

Bergie Herring grew to manhood in his native place where he was given ordinary educational advantages. He learned the carpenter trade in Wisconsin. On January 1, 1913, Mr. Herring who has worked at his trade in various places in Wisconsin and Illinois, located at Rockford, and established himself as a contracting carpenter. His shop is located at No. 315 S. Main street, and he is prepared to execute contracts for anything in the carpentering line and in

cabinet-making. Employment is given to three men, and the outlook is such as to suggest continued prosperous conditions.

In August, 1891, Mr. Herring was married to Ada Bell Keller, a daughter of Alva and Mary Jane (Turner) Keller. Mr. and Mrs. Herring have one daughter, Laura Hazel, who was born January 30, 1895. This young lady was graduated from the Rockford High school in 1914. Mr. Herring is a Christian Scientist.

HIBBARD, John H. The late John H. Hibbard was one of the leading wagon manufacturers of his day, and bore a prominent part in the development and advancement of Rockford where his interests were centered for many years. He was born in Dorsetshire, England, in 1820, a son of John and Mary (Parker) Hibbard. John Hibbard was born in the same place as his son, and the mother was also a native of that place, and there these parents married, and spent their useful lives.

John H. Hibbard was educated in his native place where he learned the wagon-making trade. In early manhood he left England for America, taking passage for himself and wife on a sailing vessel for Quebec, Canada, that consumed eight weeks on the voyage. After a short time spent at Quebec, Mr. Hibbard came to the United States, and spent a year in New York City working at his trade, and then left for Pike County, Mo. There he was engaged in the same line for a short period, going thence to Pittsfield, Ill. After working there for a short time at his trade, he went across the plains to Colorado, with an ox-team, in search of gold, but after a year came as far back as Nebraska, where he invested in considerable land and spent a number of years upon it. Later he made a trip of seven months duration to England, and upon his return bought property at Toronto, Canada. After seven years he took another trip to England, but after a short stay at Avon, he came back to the United States and was in New York City for a few months.

Mr. Hibbard then located at Rockford, where he bought a beautiful residence on School street, and there he died in 1913, aged ninety-three years. Mrs. Hibbard died of heart trouble February 6, 1915, being at that time a very aged lady. During the Civil war, Mr. Hibbard was in the South, and suffered losses from the troubles resulting from warfare. In politics he was a Democrat. The Episcopal Church held his membership and had in him a generous contributor. A man of many virtues, he was interested in those movements looking towards the advancement of his community and the maintenance of moral standards.

HILL, Miss Louise, proprietor and manager of the special establishment known as Ye Gyfte Shoppe at Nos. 124 and 126 South Church street, Rockford, is one of the members of her sex who has developed a keen business sense with artistic perceptions of no ordinary degree. She was born at Chicago, Ill., where she received a fine educa-

tional training, for some years being head assistant of the Ravenswood School, holding that very responsible position until she resigned to enter upon her present business. Her father and mother were natives of Connecticut, but came to Chicago in 1853. Mr. Hill, both before and after the fire, was a prominent carriage manufacturer and dealer in Chicago. He resided at Evanston from 1872. After thirty years in this line of business he retired, and died at Toledo, Ohio, aged eighty years. The mother died in 1901, at Evanston, Ill.

In 1905, Miss Hill decided that her real inclinations were in the direction of a business in which she could give expression to her artistic ideas. After considerable consideration of the subject, she felt that there was an excellent opening for her kind of a store at Rockford, and she located here, commencing in a small way, and from the first met with gratifying appreciation and patronage, which so encouraged her that she has continued to branch out until she now has two stores, and is rightly numbered among the leaders in her line in this part of the State. Her business success but proves the contention that women are able and capable of engaging in the same lines of endeavor as men, and that in the majority of cases can distance the latter under similar conditions.

HILLERICH, Hite H., foreman and inspector of the lumber department of the Illinois School Furniture Company, of Rockford, with residence at No. 512 N. Main street, is an efficient, capable and faithful man and reliable citizen, whose standing is very high both among his associates and in the city. He was born at Louisville, Ky., October 25, 1884.

Educated in the schools of Louisville and in Scott County, Ind., he began his business career as a farm hand, and so continued for seven years, when he went to Mound City, Ill., and learned the lumber business. Having mastered its details, he returned to Louisville, Ky., and became cost man for the Turner, Day & Woolworth Handle Company. After a year with this concern, on July 3, 1912, he came to Rockford, and on July 11 of that year, accepted his present position with the Illinois School Furniture Company, in which he is a stockholder. His knowledge of his work is practical and intimate, and he is recognized as one of the most capable men in his line at Rockford. Mr. Hillerich is unmarried.

HJELM, C. Emmett, M. D., a physician and surgeon of more than average skill and trained experience, with office at No. 416 E. State street, and residence at No. 1131 Sixth avenue, is one of the honored members of the Rockford medical fraternity. He was born in Colorado, November 15, 1887. Dr. Hjelm attended the public schools of Mason, Ohio, and was graduated from its high school in 1905, following which he took a two-years' course in the Ohio State University, from which he was graduated in 1907, with the degree of Ph. C. He then

studied medicine at the Miami (Ohio) Medical College of Cincinnati, and was graduated therefrom in 1912, with the degree of M. D. From June 1, 1912 to January 1, 1913, Dr. Hjelm was an interne at Christ Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio, and then went to the New York Post Graduate Hospital and was there from January 1, 1913, to January 1, 1914. He was a member of the house staff of that institution; was physician in charge of the lying-in department; assistant in the male surgical ward; physician in charge of the medical and orthopedic wards; assistant surgeon of the women's ward; physician in charge of the babies' ward and house surgeon. On June 1, 1915, he came to Rockford where he has established himself in a general practice.

On March 2, 1915, Dr. Hjelm was married at Cincinnati, Ohio, to Nellie M. Landis of Fostoria, Ohio. Dr. Hjelm belongs to Lebanon Lodge No. 26, A. F. & A. M., and also to the Alpha Kappa Kappa college fraternity. In politics he is a Republican. His long connection with one of the leading hospitals of the country gave Dr. Hjelm an experience so varied and extensive that he is unusually well fitted for his work, and he has brought to it an enthusiasm and natural inclination which aid him very materially in serving his fellow creatures and rising in his profession.

HOBSON, Charles Elmer, a prosperous and self-reliant farmer and stockraiser of Winnebago Township, whose fifty-five acres of valuable land are located on section 28, is a native son of this township, born July 1, 1875, a son of Edward Hobson and Cornelia (Schoonmaker) Hobson, farming people of Winnebago Township. Charles E. Hobson attended the district schools of his native township, and at the same time was taught the lessons of industry and thrift which were to prove so valuable to him in after life. In 1897, he bought his present farm and since then has been engaged in operating it, carrying on general farming and stockraising.

On March 27, 1897, Mr. Hobson was married to Miss Maud Dove, a daughter of George and Mary Dove, natives of England. Mr. and Mrs. Hobson became the parents of the following children: Edith M., who was born March 23, 1898, died March 2, 1901; Florence, who was born December 22, 1904; Arthur, who was born February 6, 1908; Seneth, who was born December 31, 1909; Kenneth, who was born May 22, 1912; and Clifford, who was born January 25, 1915. Mr. Hobson is a Republican in political faith, but has not aspired for public honors, being too fully occupied with his private affairs.

HOCKER, Edward I., secretary of the Kertz Action Company of Rockford, is an experienced piano man and one who knows thoroughly the demands of his business, so that he is able to give it intelligent and capable supervision. He was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, and there he attended the public schools and a college of that city. In 1901 he was attracted to Chicago for



Edwin Kelly



Frederick M. Kelly

he believed that there he would find a wide scope for his abilities, and he became connected with the Piano and Organ Supply Company, and through this association gained a practical knowledge that has since proved very valuable. In 1910 he left Chicago for Rockford, and connected himself with his present company, of which he is now secretary and chief clerk, the detail work of the office being in his capable hands. Since coming to Rockford Mr. Hocker has taken an interest in municipal affairs, although never being willing to accept public honors. His residence is at No. 977 N. Main street.

HOFFMAN, Abram M. A member of the retired colony of Rockford, Abram M. Hoffman has had a career which has been part and parcel of the development of this community. A son of the Empire State, he was born in Cayuga County, at the town of Cato, in 1848, and is a son of Peter D. and Wealthy (Mills) Hoffman. The grandparents of Mr. Hoffman were Abram and De Yea Hoffman, the former a Hollander by birth, and the latter born in France. On the maternal side Mr. Hoffman's grandparents were Abram and Mary A. Mills, the former born in Scotland, and the latter in the north of Ireland. The father of the subject of this review met his death in an accident in 1854, and his mother subsequently married a Mr. DeRatt, by whom she had four children. The children of Peter D. and Wealthy Hoffman were: Mary, who died at the age of four years; Martha, who died aged seventeen years; Abram M.; Sarah J., who is deceased; and William P., of Syracuse, N. Y.

Abram M. Hoffman was but six years of age when his father died, and his boyhood was largely passed in the households of his grandfather and his uncle. The latter, David Mills, came to Illinois in 1859 and located at Rockford, and one year later settled on a farm in the vicinity of Winnebago. Young Abram was living there when, in the fall of 1864, he enlisted for service in the Civil war in the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, with which organization he was sent to Tennessee and assigned to scout duty. He was taken sick at Memphis, where he was confined in the hospital for two months, and was given his honorable discharge in June, 1865.

His duties as a soldier done, Mr. Hoffman returned to Winnebago County, and for a time worked on the farm. He realized, however, the need of further education and for a few months attended school, following which he went to Trenton, N. J., and started to work as a traveling salesman for a publishing company. Mr. Hoffman next entered the employ of the Trenton Lock Company, and while there, learned the brass moulder's trade, working three years as an apprentice, which he followed as a journeyman and foreman for three years. That he thoroughly mastered this trade is shown by the fact that he worked for the great and important

plant of the Remington Arms Company, at Ilion, N. Y. Returning to Trenton, he next went to Washington, D. C., as assistant superintendent in the building of the road from the city limits to Blair's Gate, and, this contract satisfactorily completed, was given the position of assistant superintendent of the poor in the district outside of the city limits. Four months later saw Mr. Hoffman employed as foreman in a brass foundry in Washington, D. C., but after a short period he went to Chicago, Ill. His trade claimed him at that time and he commenced working for Wolf & Company, brass foundrymen, and later came to Rockford, Ill., and worked for A. D. Forbes for about eighteen years, and in June, 1876, for W. D. Trahern. While employed with the former concern he obtained a leave of absence, and, established the first brass foundry here for W. D. Trahern. In 1892 Mr. Hoffman returned to the soil. He took up his work as a farmer in New Milford Township, just south of Rockford, but was not allowed to remain there long, for he was called by the Rockford Manufacturing Company, with which concern he remained one and one-half years. In 1894 he again took up the work of the agriculturist, and continued as a husbandman until 1902, when, feeling that he had contributed his share to life's activities, he retired and moved to his home in Rockford, No. 201 Hoffman Court.

Mr. Hoffman was married in October, 1866, by Rev. Boyington, then chaplain of the United States Senate, to Miss Mary E. Nichols, who was born in Washington County, Iowa, daughter of Danforth and Elizabeth (Booth) Nichols, natives of Massachusetts and England. To this union there were born four children: Alfred E., of Rockford, Ill.; Clarence W., of Hanson County, S. D.; Ella, deceased, who was the wife of Frank Biggers; and Harry A., of Cherry Valley, Ill. The mother of these children died in October, 1899, and in December, 1902, Mr. Hoffman was married to Sarah J. Wilson, who was born in Washington County, Vt. Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman are members of the Christian Union Church. While not a seeker for political preferment, Mr. Hoffman has always been ready to discharge the duties of citizenship, and has served in such offices as judge of election, school director and tax collector. He is a popular comrade of Nevius Post No. 1, Grand Army of the Republic, his popularity and good comradeship having been demonstrated by his election to every office in his post, including that of commander.

HOFFMAN, Harry A. The devotion of a lifetime to agricultural pursuits naturally brings about desirable results if the person in question possesses habits of industry and thrift combined with a natural inclination for this calling. Harry A. Hoffman, of Cherry Valley Township, is numbered among the enterprising farmers of the above class, and his success is well merited. He was born in the town of New Milford, Winnebago County, November 3, 1876,

a son of Abram and Mary E. (Nichols) Hoffman, of New York State and Iowa, respectively. The mother died in the fall of 1899, but the father survives and makes his home at Rockford.

Harry A. Hoffman is the youngest of the four children born to his parents, and with the exception of two years spent at Rockford, has been engaged in farming all his life. He rents 148 acres of land from Fred Crawford, eighty-eight acres of which are on section 5, Cherry Valley Township, and the remainder in the adjoining township, where he lived for four years prior to locating on his present farm. Here he does general farming and dairying, milking twelve cows of the graded Holstein breed. He also raises Poland-China hogs. His fences are all of barbed wire and woven wire. He is recognized as a modern farmer in every respect.

On November 29, 1899, Mr. Hoffman was married to Lettie M. Corbin, a daughter of Arthur Corbin. Mrs. Corbin is the youngest in a family of three children born to her father's first marriage, and was born November 11, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman have had three children, namely: Ella M., who was born September 20, 1902, is attending school; Leslie E., who was born September 28, 1905, died April 2, 1909, and is buried in the Union Cemetery, Cherry Valley; and Alfred S., who was born October 9, 1910. Mr. Hoffman belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a Republican.

HOLLAND, Hosmer Philip, veteran of the Civil war, business man, attorney and public official, occupied a prominent place in Rockford affairs during his long and useful life, and dying left behind him a record of good deeds and thoughtful service for others worthy of commendation. Mr. Holland was born at Millersburg, Ohio, January 15, 1838, a son of John A. and Maria Louisa (Curtis) Holland, natives of Morgantown, Va., and Mt. Vernon, Ohio. In 1846 these parents came to Rockford, Ill. He was an attorney and spent the remainder of his life at Rockford. The mother of H. P. Holland died after their arrival, and Mr. Holland married (second) Catherine F. Goodhue.

Hosmer Philip Holland grew up at Rockford, and remained with his father until he was seventeen years old, when he entered Antioch College, Ohio, and later attended Union College, Schenectady, N. Y. Following this he returned to Rockford and studied law. After his admission to the bar, he continued in active practice the remainder of his life, although interested in other things as well. For several years he was secretary and treasurer of the Rockford Watch Factory. In politics he was a Democrat and held a number of important offices. His death occurred October 5, 1912.

In September, 1862, Mr. Holland enlisted for service in the Civil war, in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, as orderly sergeant, and later became lieutenant. He was honorably discharged in the fall of 1864. He was severely wounded in the chest at the battle of

Missionary Ridge, and suffered much also from exposure and privations.

On November 21, 1865, Mr. Holland was married to Laura Blinn, born at Rockton, Ill., November 11, 1846, a daughter of Jesse and Aurilla (Simons) Blinn, the former born at Bennington, Vt., in 1809, and the latter at Lebanon, N. H., in 1814. They were married at Conneaut, Ohio, in 1834, and there Mr. Blinn carried on a wagonmaking business until he went to Chicago. After a year at that place, he returned to Ohio, but in 1838 migrated to Macktown, Ill., one mile above Rockton, on Rock River. There he conducted a ferry until 1842, when business interests brought him to Rockton and he here established a wagon shop and conducted it for ten years. He then moved to Rockford, Ill., and with Ralph Emerson started the first hardware store at that place, they continuing together for some years. Mr. Blinn then formed a partnership with John H. Manny, for the purpose of manufacturing reapers, but later sold his interest. His demise was in 1879. Mrs. Blinn died in 1905, aged ninety years. The Blinn children were as follows: William C., who lives at Rockford; Charles, who is deceased; Laura; Edmond, who resides at Rockford; and Jessie, who died in 1881.

Mr. and Mrs. Holland had the following children: Louise, who is the widow of Daniel McMullen, of LaGrange, Ill., has one daughter, Laura; Aurilla, who is the widow of C. D. Allyn of Western Springs, Ill., has three children, Hosmer H., Chancy B., and Elizabeth; Elenor, who resides with her mother; Laura, who died aged ten years; Guy, who resides at Zamboanga, P. I.; and Kate, who is Mrs. G. S. Patton, of Rockford, has one son, Goldwin P. Mrs. Holland was educated in the Rockford High School. Mr. Holland was a Unitarian. He belonged to the Rockford order of Elks, and to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R.

HOLLAND, John A., page 707.

HOLLENBECK, Jacob A., a prosperous and reliable hardware merchant at No. 1020 and 1022 S. Main street, is one of the men who occupies a solid position in the business world of Rockford. He was born in Winnebago Township, in 1864, a son of Jacob and Mary (Warner) Hollenbeck. Jacob Hollenbeck and wife were born in Schoharie County, N. Y., where they were married, coming to Winnebago County, Ill., in 1856. They bought a farm in Winnebago Township and improved it, and continued to live on it until death. Mr. Hollenbeck died in 1901. His widow survived until June 4, 1914, passing away when aged ninety-three years. In politics Mr. Hollenbeck was a Republican. In religious matters he was a Congregationalist and helped to found the local church of that denomination.

Jacob A. Hollenbeck grew up in Winnebago Township. His first business experience was gained with the Westinghouse works at Schenectady, N. Y., but within a year he bought a threshing outfit and brought it to Rockford from

New York state, operating it for a time. He then went into the employ of the city at the water works, and filled a position there for two years. In 1900 he embarked in a hardware business for himself at No. 1030 South Main street. By 1908 his trade had so expanded that he felt justified in erecting his present building. His business is in a very flourishing condition and he stands well in the commercial field.

On June 23, 1892, Mr. Hollenbeck was married to Miss Katie L. Faulkner, a daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Faulkner) Faulkner, natives of Scotland and England, who were married in Winnebago Township. Mr. and Mrs. Hollenbeck have two children: Vera M. and Joseph E., both of whom are at home. Mr. Hollenbeck is a Mason. His political convictions make him a Republican. In religious faith he is a Presbyterian, and is prominent in church affairs.

HOLM, Charles O. Roscoe Township numbers among its property owners some of the most substantial farmers of Winnebago County, and one of them is Charles O. Holm. He was born in Sweden, October 20, 1859, a son of John and Gustava (Folin) Holm, natives of Sweden. They came to the United States in 1893, and two years thereafter the mother died at Chicago. The father survives and makes his home with his son, Charles O. Holm. While residing in Sweden he was a farmer.

When he was twenty-seven years old, Charles O. Holm left his native land, where he had lived up to that time, and coming to the United States, located at Chicago. Later he worked in a Wisconsin lumber camp, and then went to Ogle County, Ill., where he worked for three years on a farm owned by Calvin Countryman. In 1891 he rented a farm in Lindville Township, Ogle County, Ill., and continued on it for nine years, when he rented the Calvin Countryman farm in Winnebago County, but at the expiration of three years' occupancy of it, in 1903, bought his present farm of 122 acres on which he has since resided. Mr. Holm devotes his land to dairying purposes and raising of hogs and finds these lines very satisfactory.

In 1890 Mr. Holm was married to Miss Anna S. Carlson, born in Sweden, a daughter of Carl Argus and Maria (Hanson) Carlson, natives of Sweden, who never came to the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Holm are the parents of four children, namely: Esther Marie, Helen Caroline, Edith Gustava, and Anna Elvira. Mr. Holm is a Mason and also belongs to the Grange. In politics he is a Republican, while in religious faith he is a Lutheran. An alert, energetic man, Mr. Holm has steadily advanced and owes his prosperity to his hard work and economy.

HOLMES, R. W., a prosperous retired farmer of Rockford who is a recognized factor in the affairs of the city, was born in Ogle County, Ill., January 16, 1855, a son of Joseph and Mary (Greenhow) Holmes. The father was born in

Staffordshire, England, and the mother was also a native of England. In his own country Joseph Holmes was a gardener and butcher. He left England in 1848 and came to Rockford, Ill. For some time thereafter he worked as a farm hand for Jonathan Miller, in New Milford Township, and then worked near Caledonia, Ill., as timekeeper on the railroad then being built, but lived at Roscoe, Ill. Still later he bought a farm in Ogle County, Ill., and moved his house to it from Roscoe. Until he retired, he lived on this farm, then leaving it passed his last days with his sons and daughters, and died at the home of his son, George R., in November, 1910, aged eighty-five years. His wife died on the Ogle County farm, in 1897, aged sixty-three years. He was a Republican in politics. His wife came to the United States with her parents when a little girl, and they settled at Franklin, DeKalb County, Ill., where her father took up government land, and lived on it until his death in 1877, aged sixty-five years. The mother survived and spent the remainder of her life with her daughter, Mrs. Pitt, in Chicago.

After he was old enough, having in the meanwhile been educated in the schools of Ogle County, R. W. Holmes assisted his father in farming, this state of affairs continuing until he was twenty-three years old. He then bought a part of the homestead, on which he erected a residence, and lived in it until he was fifty-five years old. On November 30, 1909, he moved to Rockford where he bought the house he now occupies at No. 208 Forest avenue. In politics he is a Republican. Grace Methodist Church holds his membership and benefits by his liberality.

In December, 1877, Mr. Holmes was married to Miss Florence A. Clark, a daughter of William A. and Mary (Bennett) Clarke of Monroe Center, Ogle County, Ill., who died at their home in Rockford, September 5, 1910. They had eight children, as follows: Hulbert Leroy, who married Maud Atchison of Monroe Center, Ill.; Marian E., who married John Hildebrand of Monroe Center, Ill.; Ella C., who married Jacob Hildebrand of Monroe Center, Ill.; Beatrice A., who married Cecil T. Atchison of Monroe Center; Edwin R., who married Mabel Richardson of Monroe Center; Ralph J., who married Estella Knight of Lynnville Township, Ill.; Bernice, who married William L. Poliska of Lynnville Township; and Avis, who married Dr. Harry H. Howe of Rockford, Ill., October 14, 1915. In 1912 Mr. Holmes married (second) Miss Gracia M. Hoisington, a daughter of Horace Edwin and Priscilla (Peck) Hoisington of Batavia, N. Y., who came to Monroe Township, Ogle County, Ill., in 1846, there buying 160 acres of land. They sold their property later on and moved to Kishwaukee, Ill., where they bought 100 acres of land at \$25 per acre, and there the father died in 1903, two days before he was eighty years old. The mother of Mrs. Holmes died January 19, 1883.

HOLMQUIST, Frank E. From a utilitarian standpoint perhaps no invention has proven of greater value to the general masses than that which substitutes cement products for those manufactured from stone. The general adoption of this class of building material has given an unusual impetus to the industries associated with its production and a firm which is rapidly gaining a fair share of the business at Rockford and vicinity is that of Frank E. Holmquist, contractor.

Frank E. Holmquist was born at Rockford, Ill., November 3, 1885, a son of Gustaf E. and Mary (Braid) Holmquist, natives of Rockford, Ill., and of Sweden. They were married at Rockford, where the father conducted a meat market. He died in 1887, the mother passing away three years later. Their only child was Frank E., and after his parent's death, he was reared by an aunt, Anna C. Braid.

Mr. Holmquist attended the common and high schools and a business college of Rockford until he was fifteen years old, when he began working as a clerk in a mercantile establishment. When he was twenty he went to Red Rock, Mont., and had many experiences, and he was for a time camp tender, and later sheep foreman on a sheep ranch, being there for three and one-half years. He was then employed by the government as a forest guard, with headquarters at Kalispell, Mont., but six months after his appointment he returned to Rockford, where he formed his present association and began manufacturing cement stone and concrete specialties of all kinds.

Mr. Holmquist has never married. He is a member of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford. In politics he is a Republican and belongs to the Swedish American Republic Club. In a business way he is now engaged in contracting, specializing in concrete construction. A man of ideas, alert and energetic, Mr. Holmquist has made a place for himself in industrial circles and his outlook is very promising.

HOLMQUIST, John P., although now retired from active participation in the business affairs of Rockford, at one time was an important factor in its commercial life. He was born at Skona, Sweden, March 15, 1841, but left his native land for the United States and arrived in Chicago, Ill., July 5, 1869. From that city he came on to Rockford and worked as a blacksmith in the reaper works of Emerson & Talcott for fourteen years. He bought stock in the Standard Furniture Company, and engaged with it as a machine hand and continued in its employ for eighteen years, but retired in 1909, although he retains his stock in the company. A farsighted man, he invested in some real estate on Seventh street when he first came to Rockford, and this has greatly increased in value. In 1885 Mr. Holmquist built a fine residence on Fourth avenue where he has since lived.

In September, 1866, Mr. Holmquist was mar-

ried in Gottenborg, Sweden, to Louisa Hokonson, born in Smoland, Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Holmquist became the parents of the following children: Ida, who died at the age of thirty-four years; Agnes, who is Mrs. W. F. Bond, of Taunton, Mass.; Esther, who is Mrs. Ernest Johns, of Los Angeles, Cal.; Clara, who is Mrs. C. M. Moon, of Oakland, Cal.; Anna, who is Mrs. Adolph Salzman, of Los Angeles, Cal.; and Harold, who died at the age of twenty-four years. Mr. Holmquist belongs to the Swedish Methodist church. In politics he is a Republican. Perhaps Rockford contains no better example of the self-made man than Mr. Holmquist. He even had but few educational advantages, having attended school only in Sweden, and that to no great extent, but he knew how to save and invest, and was not afraid of hard work, and he is now reaping the desirable results of his years of frugality and labor.

HOOD, Daniel N., page 708.

HOOPLE, Allan. Among the substantial and enterprising farmers of Winnebago, one who has made an especially creditable record in husbandry is Allan Hoople. He is the owner of a valuable farm, located in section 32, Owen Township, which has been secured solely through his own efforts, and while he has been advancing his own fortunes he has not been indifferent to the needs of his community, for the value of his citizenship has been constantly recognized. Mr. Hoople is a native son of the community in which he now resides, having been born in New Milford Township, Winnebago County, Ill., June 30, 1865, his parents being John and Hannah (McCammond) Hoople.

John Hoople was born in Canada and there reared, educated and married, and in the fall of 1861 came to the United States and settled at New Milford, Winnebago County, Ill. There he secured employment by the day and was so engaged for a time, when he allowed himself to be attracted by the glamour of war, and enlisted in the Federal army, as a member of the Fifty-second Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, an organization with which he served for a period of six months, making an excellent record as a soldier. When he received his honorable discharge he returned to New Milford, where he worked until he had accumulated sufficient means with which to rent a farm in Ogle County, Ill., on which he was engaged for a number of years. He again returned to New Milford and turned his attention to teaming, but after his wife died there in 1870, at the age of thirty-six years, Mr. Hoople went to western Iowa, settling in the vicinity of Emmet, where he engaged in farming, and where it is believed he still resides. In political matters he was a Republican.

The boyhood and youth of Allan Hoople were passed in Winnebago and Ogle counties, and his education was secured in the district schools of these farming communities. He resided with his uncle, Warren Sheffield, until he reached the



Bert J. Wetly

age of twenty-eight years, at which time he began to work out on farms by the month and was thus engaged for five years. Going then to Tama County, Iowa, he remained for three years, and upon his return to Illinois located in New Milford Township and worked for two seasons, at that time becoming a renter on a property of 120 acres, in Ogle County. In 1904 he was married to Mrs. Jennie (Cally) Browdway, daughter of William and Jane (Gibson) Cally, and moved back to Winnebago County, locating on a farm in Seward Township, where he remained for five years, on a farm of 260 acres. This was followed by his location on his present place, known as the Phelps Farm, a tract of 240 acres in Owen Township. This he has brought to an advanced state of development through the use of modern methods and the exercise of judgment and industry, and in addition to general farming, he has made a success in the feeding and breeding of live-stock, and particularly of Percheron horses. Mr. Hoople is a member of the Stars of Equity.

The grandfather of Mrs. Hoople died in Ireland in 1884, at the age of sixty-two years, but the grandmother survived until 1912 and had reached the advanced age of ninety years at the time of her death. Mrs. Hoople's father and mother were married in their native County Down, Ireland, where they passed their lives in farming. Mrs. Hoople was born and reared there, and was married to Mr. Browdway, by whom she had four children: Wallace, Maud, Eddie and Alice. After the death of her first husband she made a trip to the United States to visit her brother, at Rochelle, Ill., and subsequently moved to Rockford, where she met and married Mr. Hoople. They are the parents of four sons: Ralph, Allen, Harry and Burt.

HORSMAN, Charles I., page 645.

HOUGHTON, Bethuel, page 646.

HOUGHTON, Lester Linwood, one of the substantial agriculturists who has met with more than ordinary success in his farming operations, was born in Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County, April 4, 1874, a son of Thomas and Clara Houghton. The father was born in 1845, and the mother in 1841, the birth of the latter taking place in the house now occupied by her son, Lester Linwood, which was erected in 1838. The father's birth took place one-half a mile north, in a log cabin. The grandparents on both sides of the family took up government land in Winnebago County. Both the parents are deceased, the father dying in 1870, and the mother in 1888. Their children were as follows: Lester Linwood; Wilbur, who was born August 10, 1875, lives in Harrison Township, this county; a child who died in infancy; and Mrs. Gertrude Taylor who lives at Winnebago. During the Civil war the father served his country as a soldier, first enlisting in 1862, and when his term expired, reenlisted in 1864.

Lester Linwood Houghton resides on the home-

stead where he was born, comprising 100 acres of land and the beautiful farm residence. In 1896 he married Miss Margretta Keller, born at Rockton, Ill., September 11, 1879, a daughter of Alva and Mary J. (Turner) Keller, natives of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Keller had eight children as follows: R. H., who lives at Rockton; Mrs. Houghton; Eva Phillips, who lives at Rockton; Enos, who lives at Beloit, Wis.; Mrs. Carrie Kelley, who lives at Beloit, Wis.; Mrs. Mabel Hering, who lives at Oregon, Wis.; Mrs. Bessie Hanks, who lives at Madison, Wis.; Mrs. Hattie Olegard, who lives at Madison, Wis.; and Ada Haning, who lives in Rockford. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Houghton are as follows: Forest, who was born July 10, 1901; Robert A., who was born June 15, 1906; Howard Aaron, who was born February 17, 1909; Thomas, who was born November 26, 1912, and Helen Olive, born June 23, 1914. A Republican, Mr. Houghton has served as pathmaster for ten years, and for three years he was a school director. He is liberal in donating of his time and money to forwarding church work, and stands very high in public esteem.

HOUGHTON, Thomas, a retired farmer of Winnebago, was born in Durand Township, this county, October 23, 1844, a son of Robert and Dewillah (Hartley) Houghton, natives of England. Robert Houghton came to the United States in 1843, his wife having come in 1839, and they were married in Winnebago County, and settled in Durand Township in the fall of 1843. There he purchased 120 acres of land on which there was a log house and sheds for stock. They lived on this farm until his death. Their five children were as follows: Thomas; Jane, who married Martin Brown; Ellen, who died the wife of Charles M. Derwent; Alice, who later married Charles M. Derwent, is also deceased; and Amelia, who became the wife of William Randerson.

Thomas Houghton was brought up in his native township, where he was educated. During the Civil war he enlisted in May, 1862, in Company H, One Hundred and Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served about nine months when he was discharged on account of disability. He reenlisted in May, 1864, for the 100-day service in Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged at the expiration of that period. He participated in the battle of Perryville, Ky., and was in several skirmishes. After his return from the war, Mr. Houghton rented land until 1880 when he bought 100 acres in Pecatonica and Durand Townships, the house being in the latter township, and lived on this property until February, 1914, when he retired and moved to Winnebago.

On July 4, 1872, Mr. Houghton was married to Clara Houghton, a daughter of Aaron and Mary Ann (Barningham) Houghton, natives of England, and pioneers in Durand Township where they owned 190 acres of land. On this they erected the first stone dwelling in Winnebago

County, and lived in it until their death. They had three children, namely: Sarah, now deceased, who was the wife of A. E. Osborn; Clara, who married Thomas Houghton; and Henry. The homestead is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Houghton who bought it in 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Houghton have three children, namely: Lester, who resides on the farm; Wilbur; and Gertrude, who is the wife of Allen L. Taylor of Winnebago, and she has one child, Verna. Mr. Houghton is a member of Ellis Post No. 320, G. A. R. Pecatonica. His last discharge, dated October 1, 1864, is signed by Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, and Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War. While a resident of Durand Township, Mr. Houghton held the offices of road commissioner and school director, being elected on the Republican ticket.

HOWE, Harry, a leading realty operator, and one of the alert young business men of Rockford, with offices located at No. 106 S. Wyman street, was born at Darlington, Wis., February 12, 1883, a son of Edward and Anna (McPhillips) Howe. The father was born in New York City, and the mother was born near Darlington, Wis. The paternal grandfather came to the vicinity of Darlington, Wis. at an early day, and took up government land on which he erected a log house, and when he had a place prepared for his family, he was joined by them. On that farm he passed away in 1887, at the age of eighty-two years. The grandmother survives, although she has attained the century mark, and lives at Darlington, Wis. In politics the grandfather was a Democrat.

When Edward Howe was twenty-two years old, with his brother James he bought a farm near their father's homestead, and they were engaged in cultivating this for some years. Later on Edward bought out his brother, and remained on the farm until his wife's death, when he sold and moved into Darlington. For a time he lived retired, but later bought the John Pilling farm three miles north of Darlington. For his second wife he married Bridget Doyle, a daughter of James Doyle, of Kendall Township, and remained on his farm until 1910, when he returned to Darlington, where he and wife have since resided.

Harry Howe lived with his father until eighteen years old, when he began working for a blacksmith in his neighborhood, remaining with him for two years. He then went to Beloit, Wis., to engage with the Fairbanks-Morse Company, blacksmiths, for two years more. Recognizing the advantage of a commercial training, he took a complete course in the Beloit Business College, from which he was graduated, and in 1906 came to Rockford to engage with the Emerson Manufacturing Company as bookkeeper, a position he held for a year, when he returned to blacksmithing, with Charles Wendon, for a year, then was with Martin Corcoran at No. 315 S. Main street the succeeding two years. Mr. Howe then erected a building on N. Madison street, where he engaged in blacksmithing for a year, and then

rented his property to a laundry. In 1910 he embarked in a real estate business, and found it so congenial and profitable that he has continued in it ever since.

HOWE, O. Baxter, one of the reliable physicians and surgeons of Winnebago County, especially skilled as a diagnostician, is conveniently located at No. 319 Masonic Temple, Rockford, while his residence is outside the city limits on a farm. He was born in McHenry County, Ill., March 1, 1853, a son of Obadiah and Sarah (Lamphere) Howe, natives of New York state. The father was a farmer who came to McHenry County, Ill., some time in the thirties. During the gold excitement of 1849, he crossed the plains to California, but later returned to Illinois.

Dr. Howe was educated in the country schools of McHenry County, and those of Marengo, Ill., and when he was nineteen years old he began studying medicine under Dr. John W. Green, of Marengo, Ill., and at the same time attended the high school of that place. When he was twenty years old he was sufficiently prepared to enter the Northwestern University at Evanston, and later took the full medical course of the same institution, being graduated with the degree of M. D., in 1878. He later took a course at Bennett Medical College, and a post-graduate course at the College of Ophthalmology and Otology, and was graduated therefrom in 1879. He then established himself in Chicago with phenomenal success in a general practice, there remaining until 1895, for fourteen years of that time maintaining his office at the corner of State and Randolph streets, and two years previous to this was on the West side of the city. Having become a lecturer for the old Rice Lyceum Bureau, Dr. Howe delivered lectures in nearly every state in the Union, but found that he was losing money, although guaranteed \$100 per lecture. His health failed him and he was advised by his physician to go to different points as a free agent and he followed this advice, refusing a very flattering offer from the bureau to continue his lectures in Europe. Once more he established himself in practice at Chicago, but soon found that his health would not permit a continued residence in that city, so he went into the country and engaged in farming for a period. At the same time he attended to the practice of his profession and was often called into consultation by former Chicago associates. As his health improved and the demands of his old and new patients increased, Dr. Howe established a Rockford office, and now gives his profession all the time he feels he ought to and at the same time preserve his health. He belongs to the Chicago Medical Society. The Methodist Brotherhood of the M. E. Church holds his membership.

Dr. Howe is also engaged extensively in breeding and distributing thoroughbred Chester White and O. I. C. hogs and Holstein and Jersey cattle, having formed a partnership with some extensive breeders. His object is to educate the farmers to raise fine thoroughbred stock instead of mongrels. He attends to all of the clerical busi-



Nettie M. Welty.

ness while others do the manual labor, and the Company now has on hand about 200 head of brood sows and about fifty head of fine cattle. The land on which he lives is mostly devoted to the raising of small fruit.

In 1876 Dr. Howe was married to Lemira Persons, of Marengo, who is now deceased, they having had two children, namely: Aletha, who is employed by Peacock, the jeweler of Chicago, as a bookkeeper; and John Raymond, who is a cartoon artist of Chicago. In 1911 Dr. Howe married (second) Catherine D. Smith, of Lake County, Ill. There are no children of this second marriage.

HOWES, Phineas, page 660.

HOWELL, James B., page 662.

HOWLAND, Percy C., D. D. S. The progress made in dental science within recent years has been remarkable, keeping pace with the awakening of the people to the absolute necessity for hygienic mouths. With this enlightenment has come a better appreciation of the value and skill of the dental practitioner, and among those who are appreciated and recognized at their true worth in Winnebago County is Dr. Percy C. Howland, of Rockford, who maintains his office at No. 200 Lundberg building, and residence at No. 1221 Fourth street. Dr. Howland was born at Chicago, July 13, 1880, a son of Warren C. and Kate (Van Pelt) Howland, natives of Massachusetts and New Jersey, respectively. Mrs. Howland is now deceased, but Mr. Howland survives and lives at Chicago, where he is engaged in a piano business.

Percy C. Howland was educated in the Chicago public schools, being graduated from the Clyde High school. He then attended the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, from which he was graduated in 1902, with the degree of D. D. S. Immediately thereafter Dr. Howland established himself in a general dental practice at Rockford, and has since made this city his home.

On January 2, 1907, Dr. Howland was married to Dora Salen, who was born January 2, 1885, a daughter of Charles and Sarah (Bloomquist) Salen, natives of Sweden, the former of whom survives, but the latter is deceased. Dr. and Mrs. Howland have two children: Percy C., Jr., who was born August 5, 1909; and Doris Caroline, who was born March 24, 1916. The Howlands are very substantial people and stand high in public esteem.

HOYGARD, Thomas G., D. C., chiropractor with offices at No. 215 Seventh street, Rockford, and residence at No. 405 So. State street, Belvidere, Ill., is one of the efficient men in his line at Rockford. He was born in Norway, January 27, 1891. After taking a common and high school course, he spent two years in a technical school in his native land, perfecting himself in certain studies. He then came to the United States, in 1910, and remaining there for a year, studied the English language in the Fourth Avenue

school in Brooklyn, New York. Following this he took a two years' course in the Palmer School of Chiropractic at Davenport, Iowa, from which he was graduated March 28, 1913. Having thus prepared himself, he practiced at Spring Valley and Winona, Minn., for eight months, and then went to Eau Claire, Wis. In 1914 he went to Europe for three months, visiting France, England and Norway. Returning to the United States by way of Canada, he took a special course at the Palmer School of Chiropractic, Davenport, Iowa. In September, 1914, he went to Chicago, Ill., to take Dr. R. G. Schroth, M. D., physicians' review course, and passed the examination before the Illinois State Board of Health, November 16, 1914. Pursuing still further his medical studies, Dr. Hoygard took a course in obstetrics and laboratory work under R. G. Schroth, M. D., and W. L. Gregg, M. D. Dr. Gregg is a teacher in the Chicago College of Medicine, following which he passed the state examination in obstetrics.

Having thus carefully prepared himself, Dr. Hoygard opened a suite of offices at Rockford and Belvidere, and has an extensive practice in both cities. A man of scholastic tastes, he has never rested content with what he has learned, but has continued to broaden his understanding of a subject, and still adds to his fund of knowledge, not only in his profession, but along other lines calculated to prove beneficial to his patients, and helpful to him in doing his duty as a good citizen. Professionally he belongs to the Wisconsin and Illinois associations of his profession, and is held in high regard by his associates. In religious faith he is a Methodist. He is a member of the Belvidere Commercial Club, and the Odd Fellows' lodge in Rockford, Ill. He believes in the Republican idea and intends to throw his vote for the Republican party.

"Chiropractic is the knowledge—not theory or belief—of philosophy of cause of disease: the science of knowing how and the art or ability to adjust it. The human brain is the dynamo where life currents are concentrated. The spinal cord and nerves are the purveyors of this mental force. If brain absorbs, spinal cord conveys, nerves transmit, and tissues, organs and viscera receive this life current *health* is the product. Obstruct the transmission of current and disease is the product. Body plus life equals health. Body minus life equals death. Disease is the abnormal fluctuation between these two quantities caused by varying degrees of pressure upon the nerves, interfering with transmission. A chiropractor knows why, where and how to adjust the 'pressure' to permit currents to continue transmission for the purpose of reconstructing disease to health."

HOYT, Eugene, who belonged to one of the pioneer families of Winnebago County, during life was one of the honored and respected men of this section. He was born in Durand Township, Winnebago County, June 16, 1849, a son of Oliver Franklin and Eugenia (Peters) Hoyt.

Reared on the home farm, he received his educational training in the rural schools.

Oliver Hoyt was born near St. Albans, Vt., in 1822, and was a son of Hemaui and Susau (Fraukliu) Hoyt. The grandparents of Eugene Hoyt came to Winnebago County in 1837 from St. Albans, Vt., the family having been preceded by another son, Timothy, in 1836. Hemaui Hoyt took up government land in what is now the west end of Rockford, it then being a very small village. There was no bridge across the river, and the only available markets were Chicago or Galeua. Hemaui Hoyt was a man of military experience, having served in the War of 1812. The journey from the old home was made by canal to Buffalo, N. Y., thence by the lakes to Chicago, and completed by teams to Winnebago County. There were eight children in the family of Hemaui Hoyt, namely: Timothy; Oliver; Hemaui, Jr., who lives at Pecatonica; Cordelia, who married Seymour A. Blake; Lois and Cynthia, both of whom married Jeremiah Campbell; Mary, who married Dr. Payne; and Louisa, who married John Humphrey. With the exception of Louisa, who moved to Minnesota, all the others lived in Winnebago County. Oliver Hoyt and wife had eight children: Timothy B. and Nelson C., both of whom live in Durand Township; Susan Wise, who lives at Davis, Ill.; Chloe Wise, who lives in Durand Township; Helen Smith, who lives at Spring Hill, Kas.; Cordelia Braut, who lives in California; Hattie, who is deceased, was the wife of Alfred Rowe of Jaynesville, Iowa. Oliver Hoyt served one term as supervisor of Durand Township. He now makes his home with his daughter, Mrs. Susan Wise of Davis, and is enjoying exceptionally good health for the advanced age of ninety-four years.

On December 22, 1881, Eugene Hoyt was married to Miss Lillie Rolason, a daughter of Horace J. Rolason, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt resided upon the farm he had been operating prior to his marriage until 1889, when he sold his 120 acres on section 17, and bought eighty acres on section 9, Durand Township, adjoining the village of Duraud. Subsequently he moved to the village, but continued to operate his farm until his death, April 2, 1898. Politically he was a Democrat. He was trustee of the village board three terms, and was always a man of more or less prominence. Fraternally he was a member of the Odd Fellows, which order he served as treasurer for many years, and of the Modern Woodmen of America. Eugene Hoyt and wife became the parents of one son, Ralph E.

Ralph E. Hoyt attended the Durand schools and Beloit College Academy. On December 16, 1907, he was married to Carrie Norton, a daughter of Edward and Louise Norton, and they have had two children: Jean Louise, who was born October 8, 1908, and died in infancy; and Julia Edith, who was born February 23, 1915. Ralph E. Hoyt is a Republican. His fraternal connections are with the Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America

and the Mystic Workers. Since August, 1908, he has been a rural mail carrier from Durand, and prior to that taught school in Duraud Township for two years. In conjunction with his mother, Ralph E. Hoyt owns the property that was his father's during his lifetime. The Hoyt family is one of the best known in Winnebago County, and its members have always been accounted among the most reputable and honorable members of the communities in which they have settled.

HUBBARD, George Francis, a prosperous and highly respected agriculturalist of Rockford Township whose name is known all over this section, was born in White Rock Township, Ogle County, Ill., February 28, 1860, a son of William and Rosanna (Thompson) Hubbard, natives of Erie County and Wyoming County, N. Y., respectively. The mother came to Rockford, Ill., in 1851, and the father came to that place in 1852, and they were married February 24, 1853, in Belvidere, after which they located at Lindenwood, Ogle County, Ill. Five years later the father bought 160 acres of land north of Rochelle, Ill., and lived on it until 1885, when they went to Rockford, Iowa, and there the father bought a section of land, improving it. He died in 1894, in Rockford, Iowa, where he lived retired for some time. After his death the mother married (second) in 1896, Monroe A. Hubbard, of Rockford, Ill. The children born to the parents of George Francis Hubbard were as follows: Clark S. and Mary, both of whom are deceased; George Francis; and Alta, who is deceased.

George Francis Hubbard lived at home until he was married January 25, 1887, to Emma J. Mack, born in Leaf River Township, Ogle County, Ill., a daughter of Artemas H. and Loretta (Seldard) Mack, he born in Canada, and she in Pennsylvania. They located in Ogle County, Ill., about 1860, and were farming people. Later they retired and came to Rockford, Ill., where he died in 1909, and she in 1912. Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard have had the following children: Ethel G., born July 23, 1888, who is Mrs. W. A. Rounds of Rockford, has two children, Jane E., born January 23, 1914, and Wilneita F., born July 9, 1915; Violet D., born April 12, 1890, who is at home; and W. Francis, born July 18, 1892, died September 11, 1914, aged twenty-two years, and is buried in the West Side Cemetery, Rockford, Ill.

After his marriage Mr. Hubbard lived in White Rock Township on his father's farm for four years, and then went to Chicago where they spent three years, and then in June, 1894, moved to Rockford. For several years afterward he was employed in the postoffice, and then purchased 400 acres of land just south of Rockford, which is finely improved. At present he rents this property and lives retired. Mr. Hubbard is a well educated man, for he not only attended the schools of his district and the Rochelle public schools, but spent two years at Wheaton College. Mrs. Hubbard attended Mt. Morris College, and a teachers' training school, at Oregon, Ill., and

taught school in Ogle County for five years prior to her marriage. Mr. Hubbard is a member of the Centennial Methodist Church, is on the church board, and is a steward and a teacher in the Sunday school, for he takes a deep interest in religious work. He is a Republican. For some years he served on the school board and gave it the benefit of his own educational knowledge. Rockford Camp No. 51, M. W. A., Royal Neighbors and Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M. hold his membership and afford him congenial companionship.

HUBBARD, Monroe A., now living in honorable retirement at No. 620 N. Church street, Rockford, is one of the veterans of the Civil war and a man of consequence in Winnebago County. He was born at Wales, Erie County, N. Y., May 1, 1843, a son of John and Laura (Stratton) Hubbard, natives of New York. His paternal great grandfather was John Hubbard, who married a Powell girl, and they were from New Hampshire. Samuel Stratton, the maternal grandfather, was a farmer in New York and died there.

Monroe A. Hubbard resided in New York state until the fall of 1860 when he came as far west as Ogle County, Ill., and did farm work until he enlisted for service in the Civil war, on September 18, 1861, in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry. He was assigned to the Eastern Department, and his regiment was in Virginia and Maryland. He saw hard service during this first enlistment and was honorably discharged in September, 1862, after which he returned to New York state and remained for a time. In the spring of 1863, his old regiment came home to recruit and he reenlisted in the same company and regiment, and served to the close of the war, and was given his final discharge in August, 1865.

In 1885 Mr. Hubbard moved to Rockford and spent a period of two years, then went to his farm in Ogle County, and there his wife, whom he had married in 1865, died on June 9, 1896. She bore the maiden name of Adelaide Cogswell, and was born in Wales, Erie County, N. Y., and was a schoolteacher. Their children were as follows: Franklin S., who died at the age of six years; Rose May, who is Mrs. W. S. Middlekauff of Rockford, Iowa; Laura Bell, who is Mrs. Samuel Middlekauff of Waterloo, Iowa; Beulah Blanche, who is Mrs. Edward Laziere, of Linnville, Ill.; William Allison, who died at the age of sixteen years; Boyd Everett, who lives in Ogle County, Ill.; Elmer, who died at the age of eleven years; Garfield, who died at the age of six years; and Harold Hitt, who lives at Rockford, Iowa.

In 1890, Mr. Hubbard sold his farm, and in 1898 went to Rockford, Iowa, where he bought farms and rented them, and owned about 500 acres in all, and continued to live at Rockford, Iowa, until the fall of 1911 when he came to Rockford, Ill., and bought a fine lot on North Church street, on which he had a fine modern brick residence erected, and has lived here since in retirement. On June 16, 1898, Mr. Hubbard

married (second) Rosanna Thompson, born July 12, 1832, in New York state, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Converse) Thompson, natives of New York state. Mr. Hubbard is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. He belongs to A. F. & A. M., Blue Lodge, and the Chapter at Rockford, Ill., the Consistory at Clinton, Iowa, and is a thirty-second degree Mason. He is a member of the Eastern Star.

HUBBARD, Ward S., chief engineer of the Rockford and Interurban Railroad Company, and engineer for the City Traction Company, with offices at Nos. 124 and 126 W. State street, is a man whose skill and experience are recognized and given the appreciation they deserve. He was born at Wautoma, Wis., May 19, 1883, a son of Frank and Ethel (Kent) Hubbard. Frank Hubbard was born on a farm near Portage, Wis., while the mother was born in New York state, and they were married at Wautoma, Wis. The father was educated at Portage, Wis., and learned the carpenter trade, developing into a very prominent contractor, being engaged in this line of business at Portage for a number of years, but later went to Richland Center, Wis., where he continued in the same line, and is still so engaged. He is a Democrat and is a Mason in good standing. The mother died at Richland Center, Wis., in June, 1915, aged fifty years. The maternal grandparents left New York state at an early day, and secured government land at Wautoma, Wis., and there the grandfather died in 1886, when seventy-six years old. The grandmother died when eighty-three years old.

Ward S. Hubbard was eight years old when taken to Tomahawk, Wis., and two years later the family located at Richland Center. He went to Muncie, Ind., when thirteen years old, and there he was educated. After leaving school he became an employe of the city engineering department of Muncie, Ind., and remained there until he was twenty-two years old, later becoming associated with the Union Traction Company of Indiana. Mr. Hubbard was given different positions in the engineering corps of this company from 1903 to 1908, when he was made superintendent of construction for the Oklahoma Railroad Company, at Oklahoma City, and at the close of 1909 he resumed his connections with the Union Traction Company of Indiana, remaining with this company as division engineer until 1911. His services were then sought by the Rockford Interurban Railroad Company in May, 1911, and he came to Rockford in that month.

On December 2, 1911, Mr. Hubbard was married to Miss Jeanette Turner, a daughter of Charles M. and Blanche (Sayre) Turner, of Terre Haute, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Turner were born at Muncie, Ind., and Wabash, Ind., respectively. The father was one of the leading bankers of Sedan, Kas., for a number of years, and later was engaged at Muncie, Ind., in the same business, later taking his brother into partnership with him. They engaged in the manufacturing of glass at Cicero, Ind., under the name of the Mods-Turner Glass Company, and

remained at that point until 1904, when Mr. Turner moved the factory to Terre Haute, Ind., the firm now being Turner Bros. & Company, and it is still engaged in manufacturing glass. Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard have one son, Marshall Turner Hubbard. The family residence is at No. 706 N. Court street, Rockford, and it is a beautiful one, where the friends of both Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard receive a cordial welcome, and a delightful atmosphere is found.

HUBBELL, Jane P. Those who enjoy the privileges afforded by the excellent public library of Rockford hold in grateful esteem the efficient and accommodating lady who has ministered to their wants for so many years, Miss Jane P. Hubbell. She was born at Belvidere, Ill., a daughter of Frederick E. and Elizabeth A. (Dickinson) Hubbell. From the time she entered the library as assistant in 1892, until the present day, Miss Hubbell has proved her capability and given the patrons of the library the benefit of her experience and wide reading.

When William L. Rowland, who had been librarian for so many years, passed away in September, 1900, Miss Hubbell was the logical candidate for the office, and to the satisfaction of the public, she was appointed librarian and has since filled that responsible office. Her judgment, based upon exhaustive study and reading, is recognized and sought by those desiring information upon almost every subject relating to literary matters. Her courtesy and unfailing patience combined with her expert knowledge, have made her a very potent factor in the literary circles of Rockford.

HULIN, William, page 660.

HULL, Walker F. The importance of Winnebago County, and the large interests centered here make its jurisprudence a matter of great moment and necessitates unusual ability and learning on the part of the men whose business it is to preserve the laws and help to elucidate them. One of the members of the legal profession who has attained to an enviable standing among his fellow practitioners, although he belongs to the younger generation, is Walker F. Hull who is conveniently located at No. 204 Palace Theatre Building, Rockford, Ill. Mr. Hull was born in Clarke County, Ill., February 9, 1887, a son of Albert and Mary E. (Harrison) Hull, natives of Illinois who live at Urbana, this state, Albert Hull being a retired farmer.

Walker F. Hull attended the schools of his native county, and the Martinville High School, and later went to the State Normal at Charleston, Ill. Following this he entered the University of Illinois, from which he was graduated in literature and art in 1910, and received the degree of A. B. In 1911 he was graduated from the department of law of the same institution, with the degree of LL. B. During 1912 Mr. Hull taught in the Rockford High School, and in July of that year entered upon the practice

of his profession in the same city, with E. D. Reynolds, in the Manufacturers National Bank Building. On April 2, 1915, he opened an office in the Palace Theatre Building.

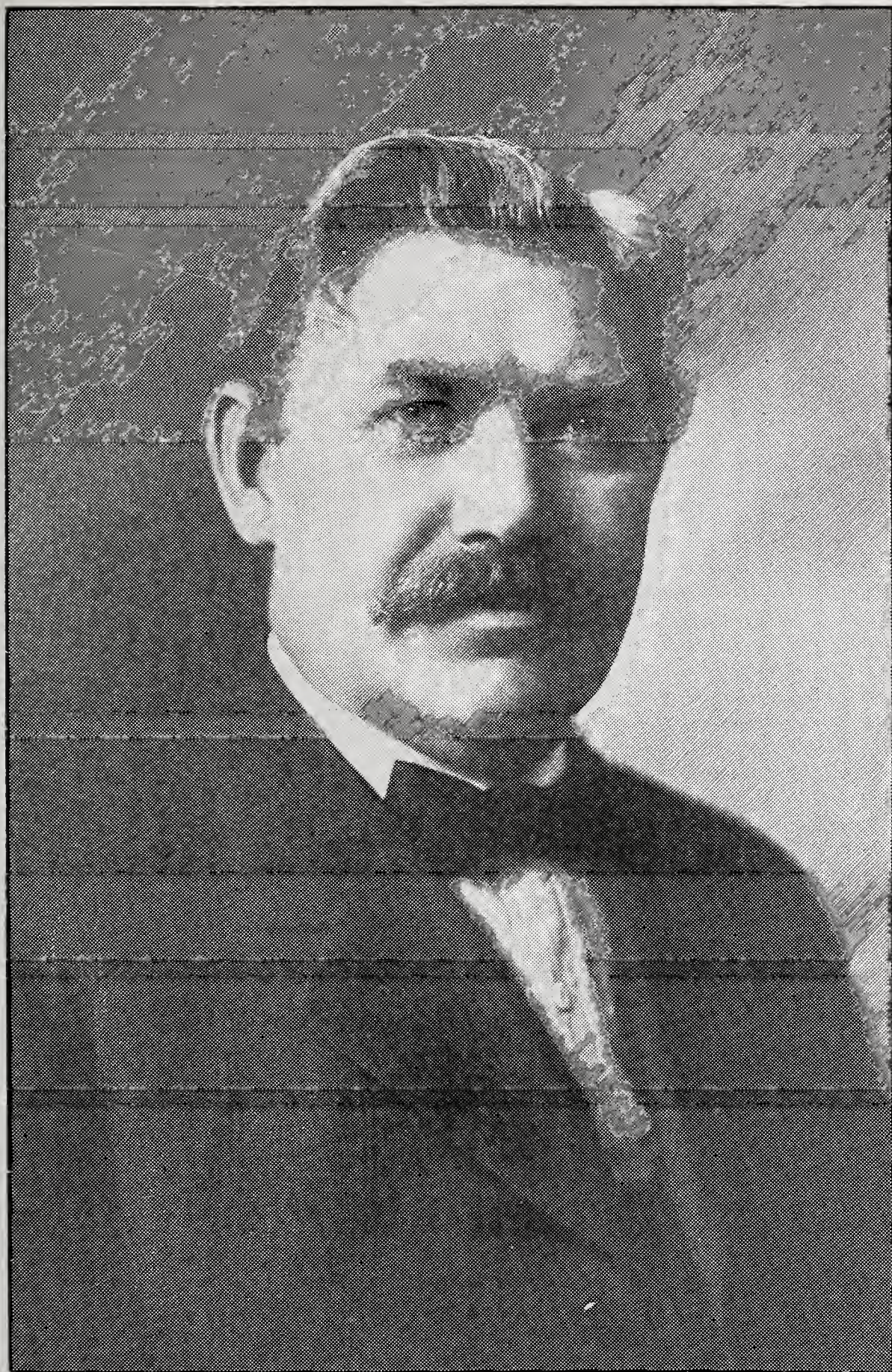
Mr. Hull belongs to the University of Illinois Club, of which he is president, and he also belongs to the University Club of Rockford. Fraternally he is a member of the Elks and Moose. Also member of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Hull is unmarried.

HULT, C. A., at present connected with the Larson & Hult Co. of Rockford, of which this is a short biographical sketch, was born August 29, 1864, in Smoland, Sweden. He was left an orphan at an early age, in the care of friends, and at ten years of age came to the United States to a brother living at Burlington, Iowa. Here he laid the foundation for his educational training by attending the public school. Following this Mr. Hult went to Kansas where he lived on a farm with his brother, but realizing the need of a better education he left the farm and entered the Normal College at Bushnell, Ill., from which institution he was graduated. After completing his course at the Normal College he entered Elliot's Business College of Burlington, Iowa, in order to gain a business education, the value and benefits of which he was already sure. Throughout his schooling he earned his own way and spent his summers working on a farm in order to earn money to assist him in gaining his college education.

In the year 1887 Mr. Hult moved to Rockford where he accepted a position as bookkeeper with D. A. Elmore, a coal dealer. While here the position of secretary and treasurer of the Rockford Co-Operative Furniture Co. was offered Mr. Hult. He accepted the position and diligently and faithfully performed his duties for a period of nine years, then resigning to accept the same position with the Forest City Furniture Co. The same general characteristic so prominent in Mr. Hult's career, namely that of putting his best efforts into everything undertaken by him, marked his work here as is shown by the rapid growth and increase in business which this company made during his connection with it. Feeling a desire to retire from the manufacture of furniture he severed his connection with that side of the business and in 1906 organized the Larson & Hult Co. to deal in furniture and undertaking, of which firm he is secretary and treasurer. His years of experience in the furniture business, coupled with courteous and honest dealing, have made it possible for this firm to become recognized as one of Rockford's leading business houses.

In 1888 Mr. Hult was married to Mary L. Danielson. Mr. and Mrs. Hult are the parents of six children: Leslie P., Harold L., Elmy M., C. Milton, Manley O., and Russell A.

Fraternally Mr. Hult is an old member of Social Lodge 140 of Odd Fellows, joining this order shortly after becoming of age. He is a



Wm. H. Childs

past noble grand and for the past ten years has held the office of treasurer. He is also a member of the Encampment and the Rebekah lodge of this order.

Mr. Hult was elected county supervisor in 1912, which position he still holds. He is also a director of the Forest City Life Insurance Co., and is a man of prominence in the business circles of Rockford. A keen, conservative man with capabilities of no usual order, Mr. Hult has steadily progressed, his success being attained entirely through his own efforts.

HULTEN, Axel L., captain of Engine Company No. 4, Rockford Fire Department, and one of the most reliable and experienced men in this department, is recognized as a citizen of merit and sterling worth. Captain Hulten was born in Helsingburg, Sweden, and was there given training in the public schools until he was eleven years old. At that time he came to the United States, and located at Rockford, Ill. Here he completed his education.

After leaving school, Axel L. Hulten worked at different places until he became a member of the city fire department. From the start he was regarded as a capable and brave man, and on February 3, 1906, his worth was publicly recognized by his appointment as captain of Engine Company No. 5. He was transferred to Company 4, on April 27, 1908, and has since continued to hold that office, having been connected with the department since February 1, 1903.

On January 29, 1899, Captain Hulten was married to Caroline Olson, who was born in Sweden, January 29, 1877. Captain and Mrs. Hulten have two children, Rosie and Leonard. Brave, conscientious, able to control men, Captain Hulten is certainly the right man for the right place, and under his efficient management and leadership, his company has rendered very efficient aid in controlling the fires of his city, thereby saving life and property.

HUNTINGTON, C. A., page 663.

HURLBERT, Charles W., for many years was a prominent agriculturist of Winnebago County, and was a man who always enjoyed the confidence and respect of those with whom he was associated. He was born at Annsville, Oneida County, N. Y., July 9, 1832, a son of David and Sarah (Simons) Hurlbert, and died November 25, 1915, at his home, No. 318 N. Main street, Rockford, where he lived retired. In 1849 he accompanied his parents to Winnebago County, where the father secured some undeveloped prairie land which he placed under cultivation and the parents resided upon it until their death.

Charles W. Hurlbert attended the common schools in New York state, and remained with his parents until his marriage in 1857, at which time he moved on a farm he owned in Guilford Township, comprising seventy-four acres. It was improved but he added to its value by fur-

ther cultivating it, later selling it to his brother. He then moved to another farm in the same township, and conducted it until in January, 1914, when he retired and came to Rockford.

In 1857 Mr. Hurlbert was married to Hannah Thompson, born August 28, 1839, in Chenango County, N. Y., a daughter of Uriah and Harriet (Fish) Thompson, both of whom were born in Dutchess County, N. Y., but in 1850 came to Rockford, Ill., where they spent their first winter. Then they bought a farm in Harlem Township and lived upon it many years but finally sold it and bought Dr. Palmer's farm opposite their original property. Both died on this farm. Mrs. Hurlbert attended the schools of her native county and Rockford Seminary. Mr. and Mrs. Hurlbert had two children, namely: Charles Henry, who is a resident of Portland, Ore.; and Clara B., who lives with her mother. She does private massaging and shampooing for the ladies of Rockford, and manufactures a hair tonic that is very popular with her customers. So expert is she that she has all the work she can do, and is highly regarded by those to whom she gives such excellent care. Mr. Hurlbert was a member of the Methodist Church. He is a Republican in politics, and has held a number of township offices, rendering efficient services as a public official.

HURSEY, William F., foreman of the tuning department of the Schumann Piano Company of Rockford, with residence at No. 232 Paris avenue, is one of the men of the city who can be depended upon to give their locality substance and reliability. He was born in Ohio, May 19, 1876, and although he is blind, he has so overcome what might in another be considered a misfortune, that few remember that he began life with a handicap. He was educated in the State School for the Blind at Columbus, Ohio, and being very musical, developed so acute a sense of sound that he learned piano tuning, and taught it to the blind at the state institution of Janesville, Wis. After five years of faithful and sympathetic service in this capacity, he came to Rockford and engaged with the Haddorff Piano Company for over a year. In 1904 he came to the Schumann Piano Company and has since continued with this concern. He has patrons all over Rockford, he being recognized as one of the most skillful men in the business. He has a beautiful home and is naturally proud of the fact that his prosperity has been earned through his own efforts.

Mr. Hursey was married to Thelma Anderson, born in Wisconsin. They have no children. He is a member of the State Street Baptist Church, and is held in the highest esteem in this connection as by all who know him, and his popularity is well deserved.

HURST, James D., superintendent of the Schumann Piano Company of Rockford, with residence at No. 304 N. Church street, is one of the most reliable men and substantial citizens of

the city. He was born at Buffalo, N. Y., June 29, 1879, and attended there the public schools until he was twelve years old. At that age he began to be self-supporting, entering the works of C. Kurtzmann & Company, and was put to cleaning piano keys. Later he was assigned to making key settings and remained with this concern until 1896. In that year he moved to Chicago and was employed by the Russell Piano Company as action finisher. In a short time he left that house for Bush & Gerts, where he did the same kind of work until 1898 when he went to Toronto, Canada, and worked for Whaley & Boyce as action finisher. In 1900 he returned to the United States and was with the Big Four Piano Company at Rochester, N. Y., until 1902, when he came to Rockford to accept a position with Barnes & Son, which was developed into the Schumann Piano Company, and he has since continued with this concern, being made superintendent in 1905. Much of the efficiency of the works is due to his excellent management and he is recognized as one of the best men in his line in the business. Having faith in his house, he has invested in its stock.

Mr. Hurst married Mabel Weinert. A man of public-spirit, he is interested in those measures he believes will work for the good of his city and the majority of the people.

HYATT, Mrs. Mary A., one of the highly esteemed ladies of Rockton, was born in Roscoe Township, January 30, 1841, a daughter of John and Ermina (Seaver) Bacon, natives of Hamden, Maine, and Ticonderoga, N. Y., who were married in New York, August 17, 1836. The father was a direct descendant of Lord Bacon of England. Mr. Bacon was a foreman in a veneer mill, and he invented a saw for sawing mahogany. In June, 1840, Mr. and Mrs. Bacon made their way to Illinois, on the Erie Canal to Buffalo, N. Y., and thence to Chicago, on the lakes. From there they came with horses and wagons they had brought with them to Rockford, arriving here when there was but one frame house in the present fine city. At that time there was an old, unoccupied log house on the edge of town, and that they secured and fixed up as a home with such belongings as they had brought with them. On account of their unostentation and humble surroundings, they were fortunate enough to escape the bandits of the prairies, although each wore a belt of gold. Had this been known, they would have undoubtedly been robbed. In time they went to Rockton Township and bought 220 acres of prairie and timber land. Later on Mr. Bacon went to Portland, Me., and died there in 1888, aged eighty-two years. Mrs. Bacon died in 1865, aged forty-nine years. Their children were as follows: Helen, who married W. I. Hart and is now deceased as is her husband, they leaving one child, Ray, who lives at Rockford; Mrs. Hyatt, who was the second born; Alice, who married J. B. Curtis of Portland, Me., is now deceased as is her husband; Henry, who married Rose Warren

is now deceased as is his wife, they leaving three children: Carrie, who is Mrs. A. C. Buckley of Omaha, Neb.; J. F., who resides at Cozad, Neb.; and Warren C., who lives at Portland, Ore.; and Frank, who lived at Gothenburg, Neb., is now deceased.

Mary A. Bacon (Mrs. Hyatt) was educated in the district schools of her neighborhood, and took a one-term course at the Rockford Seminary. She worked in a millinery and dress-making establishment at Beloit, Wis., for a few years, and for some time after her marriage was employed by Levi Moulthrop of Rockford. On September 12, 1876, she was married to Charles Hyatt, born in Canada, September 17, 1827, a son of Horace and Aznea (Nichols) Hyatt of French and Scotch descent. The Nichols family is of Scotch-Irish extraction. Mr. and Mrs. Hyatt came to Winnebago County at a later date than did Mr. and Mrs. Bacon, and were farming people. Mr. Hyatt owned a farm in Owen Township and he and his wife lived on it until July, 1888, when they moved to a farm adjoining Rockton on the north, which contained 200 acres. The Owen Township farm of 298 acres has since been rented. On the Rockton Township farm was an excellent modern brick house, equipped with hot air furnace, hot and cold water and electric light. Mr. Hyatt conducted the farm and raised horses and Poland-China hogs until his death June 25, 1914. Mrs. Hyatt still owns the farm. In April, 1914, she rented the farm to a nephew, but in 1915 assumed its management herself, hiring help to assist her. She has no children and lives alone. Mrs. Hyatt is a most remarkable person, in that when over fifty years old she began painting in oils and has developed extraordinary talent in this line. She also does beautiful lace work, her artistic perceptions in this and other ways finding expression.

HYLAND, Charles Joseph, one of the prominent men of Cherry Valley Township, and an efficient business man of the village of Cherry Valley, was born in Scott Township, this county, January 16, 1873, a son of Edward and Rose (Burns) Hyland, farming people, both of whom are now deceased. The father died October 3, 1913, and the mother passed away September 16, 1896, and both are buried in the Catholic cemetery at Rockford. They had three sons and three daughters, two of the daughters and one of the sons being married, and of them all, Charles Joseph is the youngest. The three unmarried children now live in the village of Cherry Valley, and are together. Arthur J. Hyland some years ago bought a grain, coal and feed business at Cherry Valley from S. S. Sanborn who had established it thirty-five years ago. About 1904 he sold this business to his two brothers, Edward P. and Charles Joseph, and they still conduct it in partnership.

Charles Joseph Hyland is now serving his third term as supervisor of Cherry Valley Township, and for three years he was on the school board, and for four years served as a member

of the village board of trustees. With his sister and brother he belongs to the Catholic Church at Rockford. Fraternally he is a member of Camp Kishwaukee No. 104, M. W. A., of which he has been counsel for four years, and he is also a member of the Knights of Columbus. A live business man and energetic worker for his community, Mr. Hyland is a credit to it and his constituents, and deserves the honor conferred upon him by his several elections.

INGALLS, John W., whose business capability is directed toward developing and maintaining his florist enterprise at Rockford, is one of the best types of the alert and practical business men of Winnebago County. He was born in Rockford Township, this county, in 1867, a son of Harvey and Nancy (Fuller) Ingalls.

Harvey Ingalls was born at Brookfield, Vt., where he was educated, but left the place in 1855, for Rockford Township, Winnebago County. For some time he was a teacher at Riverside, this county, and also at Wig Hill, and in the Weldon school. Later he bought fifty acres of land three miles south of Rockford, and conducted his farm until 1878 when he sold, and he also developed a 200-acre farm in Harlem Township. Finally selling his interests in Winnebago County, he moved to Chicago and went into a commission business, but in 1890 returned to Rockford and bought a small farm near Centerville. There he engaged in gardening until he was seventy-three years old, when he retired from active life. In 1862 Harvey Ingalls enlisted in Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry for service during the Civil war, and was honorably discharged in 1865. During the latter part of his service he was a hospital steward at Camp Douglas, Chicago. The mother of John W. Ingalls was born in New York state in 1838, and came with her parents to Rockford in 1839, they settling on a farm seven miles south of Rockford, located on the north bank of Rock River. There these parents lived until their death, the father passing away in 1849, aged forty-nine years; and the mother dying in 1893, aged eighty-four years.

The boyhood of John W. Ingalls was spent in Rockford and Chicago, and he attended school in both places, and learned the trade of a florist in the latter city, under his uncle J. S. Haskins. Until 1890 Mr. Ingalls continued as a florist in Chicago, but in that year returned to Rockford and for two years was engaged in gardening in Rockford Township. In 1892, however, he bought a greenhouse on the south side of Rockford, and conducted it until 1910, when he was burned out. Following this calamity he bought the stand where he is now doing business, on the corner of Ninth street and Eleventh avenue, Rockford. He specializes in flowering plants for winter and bedding purposes and cut flowers and prepares floral designs of all kinds.

On June 18, 1888, Mr. Ingalls was married at Chicago to Miss Elizabeth Dempsey, a daughter of Edwin and Sarah (Prentice) Dempsey, and they have had the following children: Paul,

who died in 1890; Ida E., who is at home; Fannie M.; and Clement N., at home. Mrs. Ingalls was born in England and came to the United States in 1880, her father locating at that time in Chicago. There he was a tea-taster, but in 1905 he came to Rockford and went into a tea and coffee business, dealing at wholesale on South Wyman street and remained there for five years. He then went back to Chicago and lived in that city until his death, February 8, 1914, aged seventy-two years. The mother died in England in 1880, aged thirty-five years.

IRONS, Reuben H., formerly one of the successful agriculturists of Winnebago County, and for a number of years a resident of Rockford, was one of the men to whom the present generation takes pride in pointing as representative of the better class of farmers. He was born at Zanesville, Ohio, August 18, 1826, a son of David and Elizabeth (Black) Irons.

David Irons was born in Pennsylvania. When the War of 1812 was declared, he enlisted in the navy for the defense of his country, and when hostilities were over, returned to his native state. He learned the blacksmith trade, and when he went to Zanesville, Ohio, he worked at the same but later bought a farm in Franklin County, Ohio, in the vicinity of Columbus, and there lived until 1847, when, with his family he removed by team to Shirland, Ill. There he died at the age of seventy years. His wife survived him and died at the home of her son Reuben H., in Clinton County, Iowa, when she was sixty-eight years old.

Until he was nineteen years old, Reuben H. Irons lived on a farm in Ohio. Coming to Illinois in 1847, he spent some time in Rockford Township, Winnebago County, and then moved to Clinton County, Iowa, and for the following sixteen years he engaged in farming in that state, then moved to Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, Ill., and again conducted a farm. Mr. Irons died in 1897, having lived retired for several years at what is now No. 414 North First street, Rockford.

Reuben H. Irons was married to Miss Eliza Atwood, a daughter of Patten and Ann (Brooks) Atwood. She was born March 23, 1830, at Chatham, Ontario, Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Irons became the parents of nine children as follows: Frank, who died in Kansas; Lydia, who died an infant; Charles, who lives at Kingsley, Iowa; Anna, who is Mrs. W. D. Belshaw; George, who died in infancy; Mrs. Henry Foote and Edward, both of whom are deceased; and two who died in infancy.

Mr. Irons was a member of the Baptist Church. In politics he was a Republican. He was one of nine children. Two of his brothers, John and David, were soldiers in the Civil war, and the former was in General Sherman's command and participated in the famous march to the sea.

W. D. Belshaw, son-in-law of R. H. Irons, was born in New York state, where the Bel-

shaw family is well known, a son of Lester and Betsy (Brown) Belshaw. A migration was made to Illinois when W. D. Belshaw was an infant, and settlement was effected in the vicinity of Chicago. Mrs. Belshaw died in Waukegan, Ill., and Mr. Belshaw at Aurora, Ill., both being buried in the former place. In 1883 W. D. Belshaw was married to Anna Irons, and they went to Sioux City, Iowa, where Mrs. Belshaw owned a farm of eighty acres. Here they spent three years, then sold and moved to Rockford, Ill., and from there they went later to Portland, Ore., and Mr. Belshaw worked in that city as a carpenter. After ten years, they returned to Rockford for two years, and during the next seven years lived at Roscoe, Ill. In 1907 final settlement was made at Rockford, the family occupying the Irons homestead. There are seven children in the Belshaw family, namely: Agnes Hobart, of North Dakota; Wallace E., of Pecatonica, Ill.; Jennie Richardson, of Roscoe, Ill.; Archie, of Marengo, Ill.; Lester, of California; Charles F., of Rockford, attending University of Illinois; and Albert John, of Minnesota.

JAMES, Washington, who for years was one of the leading agriculturalists of Winnebago County, operating extensively in Roscoe Township, is now deceased. He was born near Albany, N. Y., May 22, 1820. His grandfather served for six years as a soldier in the American Revolution. He came originally from Rhode Island, but later moved to Courtland County, N. Y., where he died. The parents of Washington James married at Lebanon, N. Y., and they had eleven children, as follows: Joseph, who lived in McHenry County, Ill., died in 1887; Sheffield L., who was a manufacturer of wagons and carriages, located at Janesville, Ill.; two died in childhood; Washington; Newberry, who located in Kane County, Ill., in 1844; Avery, who lived in New York state; Emily, who married Amasia Fillmore of Lake County, Fla.; Eliza and John, who died in childhood; Cordelia, who is the wife of Jardin Golly of Oneida County, N. Y.; Christiana, who married a Mr. Wood, lived near Utica, N. Y., now deceased. The father of this family died in 1847, and the mother died in 1875. They were members of the Baptist Church.

Washington James went to Milwaukee, Wis., in 1841, but after a short stop, proceeded to Jefferson County, Ill., and in 1848 moved to Marengo, Ill., where he had two brothers. There he taught school for five months, and in 1850 bought some property at Beloit, Wis., where he resided until October, 1854, when he married (first) Cordelia D. Macklen of Walworth County, Wis. They had one child, Cordelia A., who is the widow of S. B. Sechrist, a commercial traveler. Her daughter, Fannie M., married Ray Hutchins, a son of ex-Mayor A. R. Hutchins, of Rockford. Mr. Hutchins is engaged in a feed and wood business at Beloit, Ill. In politics Mr. Hutchins is a Republican, while the Baptist Church holds his member-

ship. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins have one son, Harwood, born February 24, 1909.

Mrs. James died May 28, 1861. Subsequently Mr. James married (second) Miss Frances J. Macklen, a sister of his first wife. After moving to Beloit, Mr. James taught school for three years, and later dealt in grain and stock, buying for the Chicago market. He bought forty acres of land in Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, to which he added until he owned 1,000 acres of land. He died May 28, 1900, and his second wife died in 1895. The James and Hutchins families are justly numbered among the prominent ones of this part of the state.

JEFFERY, William, now deceased, was during life a man widely known and universally beloved, for he possessed those qualities which make for desirable citizenship and warm friendship. He was born at London, England, August 10, 1831. In the latter part of the first of the fifties he came to Rockford, but subsequently went to Lockport, Minn., where he owned two farms and conducted a blacksmithing shop. In July, 1856, he moved to Marengo, Ill., and lived there until 1863, when he returned to Rockford. Securing ten and one-half acres just south of Rockford on S. Main street, he carried on gardening and fruit raising until his death, September 12, 1902. Since then his widow has lived on this property.

On September 22, 1864, Mr. Jeffery was married to Emma Evans, born at Bristol, England, May 14, 1839, a daughter of James and Ann (Bright) Evans. Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery had the following children: Elizabeth Ann, who married William Ambuster, of Cumberland street, Rockford, and they have one daughter, Blanche; James H., who conducts the home place and contracts for moving buildings, married Laura Robbins who died June 22, 1913, leaving two children, Clara Bell and Lilia May. Mr. Jeffery was a Baptist. He was a Democrat and served as road commissioner. An industrious man he tried to do well whatever he undertook, and succeeded in his undertakings, and left behind him a good name.

JOHNS, Frank, one of the substantial residents of Rockford Township, is now enjoying a life of honorable retirement which he has honestly earned. He was born in Rockford Township, May 30, 1861, a son of Richard and Jane N. (Hockens) Johns, born in Cornwall, England. From England Richard Johns came to Detroit, Mich., and in 1855 came to Rockford, and worked at his trade of butchering. In 1858 he returned to England, married, and came back to Rockford, and soon bought out the business owned by Mr. Diamond for whom he had formerly worked. Later he took his brother, William Johns, into partnership. Subsequently he moved north of the city limits, and bought 203 acres of land, partly prairie and partly timber, in Rockford Township, and on this he lived until his retirement, when he returned to Rockford, and there died in May, 1912. The wife of



David Wicklund

Richard Johns died January 22, 1913. Their children were as follows: Nathaniel, who lives in Rockford Township; Emma J., who is deceased; W. R., who lives in Rockford; Nellie A., who is Mrs. J. D. Safford of Rockford; Frank; Minnie A., who is Mrs. H. E. Sanber of Rockford Township; Flora H., who is Mrs. G. A. Sanber of Rockford; and A. C., who lives at Los Angeles, Cal.

Frank Johns attended the schools of his district, and Brown's Business College, of Rockford. He spent his boyhood on the homestead, but after his marriage, resided on one of his father's farms until 1901, when he bought the home farm, now comprising 240 acres, and operated it, raising stock until 1905, when he rented it. He now occupies his time in improving his residence and introducing into it additional comforts, some of them his own inventions, he being a genius at this kind of work.

On February 12, 1880, Mr. Johns married Ada M. Sanber, born at Rockford, Ill., a daughter of John P. and Anna M. (Williams) Sanber. Mr. Sanber was born in Luxemburg, and his wife was the first white child born at Kenosha, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Johns have three children: Wilford E. and F. Adelbert, who are on the home farm; and Edna May, who is at home. Wilford E. married Ida Belle Devey and they have a daughter. Both sons are graduates of an agricultural college. Mr. Johns belongs to the Court Street Methodist Church. In politics he is a Republican and he has served as a school director and trustee and assessor of the township, having held that office since 1911. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and Winnebago Chapter, R. A. M.

JOHNS, Louis A. When a man spends his life in agricultural pursuits he becomes expert in his work and is able to advise others as to the best methods of carrying on farming. Louis A. Johns, of Rockford Township, is one of these representative farmers of Winnebago County, and his fine farm of 296 and a fraction acres reflects his skill and is a monument to his energy and foresight. Mr. Johns was born February 16, 1871, a son of William and Ann (Rodd) Johns. After attending the district schools of Winnebago County, Mr. Johns entered the Rockford High school, and was graduated therefrom in 1891. His life work has been concentrated upon his farm, and his prosperity indicates that he was wise in his choice of a calling.

On October 4, 1894, Mr. Johns was married to Sarah Jane Loucks, born at Williamsburg, Ontario, Canada, a daughter of Nelson E. and Catherine (Utman) Loucks, the former of whom was a carpenter, who died in 1873, aged forty-one years and nine months. The mother of Mrs. Johns lives at 316 N. Church street, Rockford. The Loucks family migrated from Canada to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and thirty-five years ago came to Winnebago County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Johns have had the following children: Marian Elizabeth, who was born December 2, 1896; Dorothy Anne, who was born February 20,

1897; and William Louis, who was born May 24, 1901. Mr. Johns belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Grange, and is popular in both organizations.

JOHNSON, Albin A. It would be difficult to find any line of legitimate business that is not represented at Rockford, the city being the center of so many varied interests, and one of the substantial concerns located here is that of the Johnson Bros.' Moving Picture Theatre at No. 322 Seventh street, Albin A. Johnson being one of the firm. He was born at Rockford, September 22, 1885, a son of C. Albert and Christine Johnson, natives of Sweden. The father came to Rockford in young manhood, and until his retirement was engaged along different lines, interested mainly in furniture factories. The mother died in Rockford in 1893.

Albin A. Johnson grew to manhood at Rockford, and was educated in its public schools. His first business experience was with the Free Sewing Machine Company, with which he remained for a year, and then engaged with Spangler Bros. Manufacturing Company but remained with that concern only a short time, for in 1910 he took over the business founded by his father, in conjunction with his brother, Emil Johnson, under the name of Johnson Bros. The house is known as the Olympic Theatre. The patronage is large and steady and the people of this locality look to it for agreeable entertainment, for it presents only clean and wholesome shows. Mr. Johnson also has an airdome, located on Seventh street, and the firm opened the Royal Theatre on January 1, 1915. Having been in the business for over five years, these young men understand the taste of their public and select their films with reference to it. Their prosperity has come through hard work and a strict maintenance of the highest standards in their offerings and they deserve the rewards which have come to them.

JOHNSON, Alexander, superintendent and director of the Forest City Overall Manufacturing Company, is one of the men who has materially assisted in developing Rockford's industrial supremacy, and he stands deservedly high in public estimation. He was born in Sweden, November 29, 1859, and there educated. He was early taught to make himself useful in the home and upon the farm, and when he left Sweden for the United States in 1876, he had formed industrious habits. Coming immediately to Rockford, he worked in various plants until 1884, when he became superintendent of the Rockford Overall Company, and conducted it until November 1, 1912, when he went south for the winter. Returning in the spring of 1913, he established the Forest City Overall Manufacturing Company, in conjunction with his son-in-law, David V. Nelson, and this concern is in a prosperous condition, and its output finds a ready market.

Mr. Johnson was married at Rockford, in 1882, to Ida Peterson, who died, leaving the following children: Vera, Amy, Julia and Raymond. In

January, 1891, Mr. Johnson was married (second) to Mary Krou of Rockford, and their one child died in infancy. He belongs to the Lyran Society. Zion Lutheran Church of Rockford holds his membership. In politics he is a Republican. Possessing many of the desirable characteristics of his native land, Mr. Johnson has forged ahead, and his success has been earned through his own efforts.

JOHNSON, Andrew, recognized as one of the leading grocers of the East Side, and conveniently located at No. 1323 Fourteenth avenue, is one of the representative business men of Rockford. He was born in Smolan, Sweden, November 23, 1858, a son of Jonas Johnson and wife, natives also of Sweden. Jonas Johnson was a carpenter in his native land until 1886, when he came to the United States. He located at Rockford after his arrival in this country, and here subsequently became one of the leading carpenter contractors. He died in 1900, aged eighty-six years. His wife survived him and passed away at the age of eighty-seven years.

Andrew Johnson learned the cabinetmaking trade in Sweden. He came to the United States in 1879 and his first stopping place in this country was Chicago, where he worked at his trade in a furniture store for six months, and then became an employe of a factory at May City, Mich., where he remained for eighteen months. Following that he came to Rockford and engaged with the Forest City Furniture Company with which he remained for ten years. Becoming a stockholder of the Excelsior Furniture Company, he went to work at that plant and remained until the factory was destroyed by fire. Mr. Johnson then embarked in a milk business and carried it on for the next eight years, when he started a grocery on Seventh street. There he remained for two years, and then moved his business to No. 1323 Fourteenth avenue, erecting a fine two-story block for business purposes. In politics he is a Republican.

In April, 1884, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Hilda Thompson, a daughter of John Thompson. She came at the age of two years, with her parents from Sweden to Rockford. Here Mr. Thompson entered the employ of the Forest City Furniture Company, and still remains with this concern. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have had five children, as follows: Mrs. Doll, Alice, Irving, Ethel and Vernon. Mr. Johnson is an honest business man and an enterprising, useful citizen.

JOHNSON, Carl F., dealer in paints, varnishes, linseed oil, stains and brushes at No. 604 Seventh street, with residence at No. 326 Seventh street, is a man whose progress in the world has been attained through his own efforts and self-denying thrift. He was born in Sweden, May 29, 1868, and came to the United States in 1888, arriving at Rockford on May 12 of that year. After his arrival in this city, he worked at different things, gradually improving his prospects and in 1915 he opened his present extensive

store. In addition to this business, Mr. Johnson owns stock in the Larson & Hult Company, on Seventh street.

Fraternally Mr. Johnson belongs to the Odd Fellows. He is also a member of the Svea Soner Singing Society and is very fond of music. His way in life was not made easy by wealth or influence, but he has succeeded because he has always been willing to work and save.

JOHNSON, Carl J., chief engineer of the Consumers Company, of Rockford, with residence at No. 129 N. First street, is one of the men who has risen through his own individual efforts, and deserves the high esteem in which he is held by his company and associates. He was born in Sweden, June 6, 1885, and there attended school until he was twelve years old. At that time he came to the United States, and located at East Chicago, Ind., where he continued to attend school for two years more.

Early commencing to earn his own living, he continued at East Chicago for two years, and then served an apprenticeship at the machinist trade, and until 1910 worked at his trade, but being ambitious, he studied engineering at Chicago, and through his knowledge of it became associated with the Consumers Company, holding a position as engineer with it until 1915, when he was transferred to Rockford to be placed in charge of all the manufacturing of this company as chief engineer. Mr. Johnson belongs to the Masons, Odd Fellows, Universal Council of Engineers of Chicago, and the I. O. S. He attends the Lutheran church. In addition to his Rockford interests, Mr. Johnson owns city property at East Chicago, Ind., and is a man of comfortable means. His long connection with his present company proves his reliability and expertness, and although a new comer to Rockford, is already making his influence felt among his associates.

JOHNSON, Carl R., electrical engineer of the Rockford Electrical Company, is one of the most expert men in his line and one who demonstrates the value of trained knowledge. He was born at Rockford, October 12, 1892, and although yet in young manhood, has attained an enviable position in his line of endeavor. His educational training was obtained in the Rockford public schools and the International Correspondence School.

The first practical work of Mr. Johnson was done for the Kurtz Action Company, with which concern he remained for six years, and then left to assume a responsible position in Michigan, and was with other concerns until 1915 when he assumed his present duties. He also held a responsible position with the Los Angeles Gas and Electric Company at Los Angeles, Cal.

Mr. Johnson was married at Elgin, Ill., January 18, 1913, to Elizabeth Westfall, of Rockford, born at Belvidere, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have one son, Charles W. Fraternally Mr. Johnson belongs to the Owls' Nest No. 67, of Rockford. In politics he is a Republican. Alert, skilled and experienced, Mr. Johnson is well

qualified for his position and is giving universal satisfaction to all parties concerned.

JOHNSON, Charles Harold, formerly secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Rockford Illustrating Company, is one of the enterprising and alert young business men of Rockford. He was born at Pecatouica, this county, March 27, 1892, a son of C. O. and Hilda (Carlson) Johnson. The father was born in Smoland, and the mother in Ostergotland, Sweden. In young manhood the father came to the United States, locating at Pecatouica, where he secured work as section foreman for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, and lived at this place until his death in 1901, aged fifty-three years, having been a Republican in politics, and in religious faith, a member of the Mission Church. After he was well settled in his new home, he went back to Sweden and upon his return brought with him a party of friends, among them being the lady whom he later married. She died in 1908, aged fifty-two years.

Charles Harold Johnson lived at Pecatouica where he was reared and received his early educational training, until September, 1910, when he came to Rockford, and took a commercial course in the Rockford Business College. He then obtained a position as chief clerk of the office of Hess Brothers, and in June, 1913, was elected secretary of the Rockford Illustrating Company, later becoming treasurer and general manager.

On June 30, 1915, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Estella L. Forsell, a daughter of Peter and Albertina Forsell of Rockford, her parents being natives of Sweden. Mrs. Johnson was one of the popular public school teachers at the time of her marriage, having been connected with the Brown School for nine years. Mr. Johnson is a Republican. He belongs to the Swedish Mission Church, to which he gives a liberal support. The family residence is at No. 424 London avenue.

JOHNSON, Gust. Interest always attaches to the self made man, the one who has been able to rise to a high position in a community through his own unaided efforts, and one of the men who belonged to this class was Gust Johnson, who was president of the Scandia Hardware Co., and was the second oldest express man at Rockford. Mr. Johnson was born in Smoland, Sweden, September 26, 1852, a son of Johamas Gabrielson and Martha (Anderson) Johnson, and died March 8, 1915. His burial was in the Rockford Scandinavian cemetery.

Gust Johnson was educated in the schools of Sweden, which he attended until sixteen years old. At that time he left his native land with his half brother, Andrew P. Monson, and his uncles Charles R. and Jonas R. Anderson, the latter of whom resides at No. 917 Kishwaukee street. They came to the United States and traveled direct to Rockford, Ill., after landing, and here they were later joined

by Gust Johnson's parents. The latter moved into a double house at the corner of Market and North Third streets, where they lived until they died. Sam G., another son, and Gust, then bought the place, and the Johnsons have lived here ever since, each one occupying one of the double houses, until Gust's death.

After his arrival at Rockford, Gust Johnson worked for farmers during the summer and did chores in the winter and attended school, so continuing for two years. He then began garden and greenhouse work, and kept at it for four years for several parties, and then spent four years more with F. H. Manny. On February 22, 1878, he was able to establish himself in an express business on a small scale, beginning with a single rig, but later having five double rigs, with his office at No. 128 N. Third street. The only man who was in this line of business longer and before Mr. Johnson was C. O. North. Mr. Johnson was a deputy sheriff for a number of years, serving under Sheriffs Robert Oliver, Willis E. Sawyer, Alexander Collier and Charles E. Collier, sixteen years in all. For sixteen successive years he was a member of the Republican County Central Committee. One of the organizers of the Swedish State League of Illinois, Mr. Johnson served it as vice president for a long time, and later as sergeant-at-arms of the organization. Mr. Johnson was one of the organizers of the Rockford Furniture and Undertaking Co., of which he was a director; and prior to his election as president of the Scandia Hardware Co., January 12, 1913, was a director of its policies. He was holding the office of president of this company at the time of death. During its early history, he joined the Scandia Life Insurance Co. of Illinois. Fraternally he belonged to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Svea Soner Singing Society. He joined the First Lutheran Church of Rockford June 24, 1868.

On September 19, 1877, Mr. Johnson was married to Anna C. Olson, a daughter of Olaf and Maria (Bringleson) Olson. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson became the parents of the following children: Beatrice Elizabeth, who died aged seven months and twenty days; William G. and Ernest V., who are twins; and Arthur L. William G., who held the position for several years of car accountant for the Southern Pacific Railroad, and is now employed in the Johnson transfer line, was married on October 28, 1902, to Ada Evaline Spitz, a daughter of John M. and Maria Christina (Stenstrom) Spitz, and they have had three children: Pearl Romona, who was born January 19, 1904; an infant who is deceased; and Anna Maria, who was born June 6, 1913. Ernest V., who served as supervisor of Rockford Township for one term, was employed by his father. He served in Company M, Third Illinois Infantry during the Spanish American war. Arthur L. is in a motorcycle business at Rockford. He married Lillian Lundine of this city. They have two children, Marguerite and Arthur L. Jr., three years old.

JOHNSON, Gust Emil. When it is remembered that the state's attorney has almost unlimited power in our commonwealths, with reference to the prosecution of criminals and the consequent control of crime, the fact comes home to all that there is necessity of careful selection of candidates for this exceedingly important office. Perhaps never before in its history has Rockford had so fearless and efficient a man in this office, and as long as his record is preserved, the people of this city and county will respect the name of Gust Emil Johnson.

Gust Emil Johnson was born at Chicago, November 1, 1874, but his educational training was received in the public schools of Champaign County, Ill. Following his leaving school, Mr. Johnson read law with Kerr & Lindley of Paxton, Ill., and was admitted to the bar June 5, 1902. In September of that year he came to Rockford, where he formed a partnership with his brother, William Johnson, under the firm name of Johnson & Johnson. While residing in Champaign County, Mr. Johnson was assessor for one year, and upon locating at Rockford he began taking an active part in public affairs. In November, 1912, he was elected state's attorney for a term of four years.

On March 21, 1911, Mr. Johnson was married to Minerva I. Pacey, a daughter of John Pacey. Mr. Johnson attends the Swedish Lutheran Church. His fraternal affiliations are with the Elks and the Svea Soner.

JOHNSON, J. A., who has charge of the packing and shipping department of the Rockford Standard Furniture Company, has proven his worth and capability in this and other positions, and is one of the reliable men of Rockford. He was born in Sweden, November 13, 1867, and there received all his educational training with the exception of one winter when he attended school at Rockford.

After coming to Rockford from his native land in 1884, Mr. Johnson worked on farms in the neighborhood for about three years, and then went with the Skandia Furniture Company as shipping clerk, remaining with that concern for fifteen years. In 1905 he became connected with the Standard Furniture Company, and is regarded as one of its most dependable men.

In 1895 Mr. Johnson was married at Rockford to Sophia Peterson. He belongs to the Mystic Workers, the North Star Society, and is insured in the Rockford Life Insurance Company. Mr. Johnson owns stock in various Rockford companies, and is a man of acknowledged means. The family residence is at No. 1715 Seventh street. In politics he is independent, preferring to vote for the man rather than according to party lines. The Emmanuel Lutheran church holds his membership. A reliable, alert man, whose knowledge of his work is thorough, he has risen and stands high in the esteem of his company and his associates.

JOHNSON, J. A., now deceased, was for years superintendent of the Trempealeau County Asy-

lum at Whitehall, Wis., and left descendants now residents of Rockford. He was born at Scona, Sweden, August 8, 1859, a son of Andrew and Johanna Johnson, both of whom were born in Sweden. They came to the United States in 1866, and located at Gibson City, Ill., where the father operated farm lands, and lived until his death, March 4, 1901, when he was seventy-six years old. The mother died at Gibson City, in 1908, aged seventy-four years. The father was a Republican in politics, and a member of the First Lutheran Church of Gibson City.

J. A. Johnson was ten years old when he was brought to Gibson City, and there he was reared and educated. After assisting his father on the farm for a year, he engaged in a drug business, and so continued for a number of years, when he went to Trempealeau, Wis., and was a merchant at that point for some time, selling his business to become superintendent of the county asylum, and maintained that connection until his death, April 2, 1901, when he was forty-one years old. He was a Mason in good standing, a Republican, and a consistent member of the Lutheran Church.

In 1886 Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Mary C. Peterson, a daughter of Gust and Johanna Peterson, of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson had five children, namely: Muriel C., who married N. W. Olson, of Chicago; Walter N., who is assistant cashier of the West Side Bank, at Tracy, Cal., married Miss Emily Berquist and they have one child; and Richard F., May E. and Ethel D., all of whom are at home. After the death of Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Johnson moved to Rockford and erected an elegant residence at No. 1526 Kishwaukee street, where she still lives with her three children.

Gust Peterson, father of Mrs. Johnson, was born in Sweden, where he married, and in 1865 he came with his family to the United States, locating at Paxton, Ill., where he was employed by the Ford Automobile Company, and also operated farm lands. Later he bought a small farm, where he lived until his death at the age of forty-nine years. The mother of Mrs. Johnson survived and brought her family to Rockford, where she bought a home and here died in 1910, aged seventy-eight years.

JOHNSON, John G., proprietor of the Barber Supply Company, and the J. G. Johnson barber shop, at No. 306 E. State street, has one of the finest equipped and sanitary establishments of its kind at Rockford, and is very proud of the class of custom he attracts. He was born in Kalmer, Oland, Sweden, February 15, 1862, a son of John and Sophia (Larson) Johnson, natives of the same place. In early life the father came to the United States, and stopped in Bedford County, Pa., for a time, but later came to Rockford, Ill., where he invested in the Skandia Furniture Company, and was there employed until 1913, when he retired, and is now living at No. 310 Tenth street, Rockford. The mother died at the age of forty years. The



HENRY W. WILLIAMS



MRS. HENRY W. WILLIAMS

father is a Republican. He belongs to the First Lutheran Church of Rockford.

John G. Johnson was fifteen years old when he came to the United States. He secured a position with the Kimball Iron Works at Riddlesburg, Pa., continuing there for eighteen months, when he came to Rockford, arriving here August 18, 1882. After a short period with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, he went with the O. A. Richards Lumber Company, and was in its employ for two years. He then associated himself with Charles D. Woodruff, a barber of E. State street, who had a stand on the present site of the Third National bank, and remained with him for eighteen months, following which he rented his employer's shop for six months. He then bought it from Mr. Woodruff's widow, and moved it to No. 409 E. State street, where he remained fourteen years and then moved to No. 326 E. State street. After ten years he bought a lot and erected his present building at No. 306 E. State street, where he has since remained. In 1912 he branched out into a barber supply company, and has been devoting a good deal of time to its development in late years.

In 1892 Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Olive Oberg, a daughter of J. P. and Ingrid Oberg of Rockford. They are of Swedish birth, the parents coming to the United States in early life. The father became an employe of the J. H. Manney Reaper Company, and later was with the Rockford Manufacturing Company, but is now retired. He is held in esteem because he was one of Rockford's useful early settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have two children: Merrian H. and Stanley M. Mr. Johnson is a Mason, a Republican and a member of the Emmanuel English church, being prominent in fraternal, political and church circles.

JOHNSON, O. W., secretary-treasurer and general manager of the Ward Pump Company of Rockford, and secretary of the Produce Distributing Company, is one of the well established business men of the city. He was born at Simcoe, Canada, August 20, 1873. He there attended the common and high schools, being graduated from the latter in the class of 1890, following which he worked on his father's farm for about two years. When he was nineteen years old he came to the United States, and after locating at Chicago worked for Johnson & Tillson, commission merchants, for a short time. He then took charge of the Elgin branch of the firm in the spring of 1893, and in the early part of 1895 came to Rockford to assume charge of the company's interests at this point. In 1897 Mr. Johnson went to work for the Ward Pump Company, continuing with them until 1899 when he acquired an interest in the old firm of Johnson & Tillson, of which his brother was the senior member, and when this brother retired in 1901, Mr. Johnson assumed his interest. With the retirement of Mr. Tillson in 1904, the firm became O. W. Johnson & Company, so continuing until 1906, when Mr. Johnson organized his

company into the Produce Distributing Company. When Mr. Ward died in 1908, Mr. Johnson assumed the management of the Ward Pump Company, and has continued in that capacity ever since.

Mr. Johnson was married at Rockford, September 15, 1891, to Carrie Ward, and they have two children, Bruce W. and Wilfred H. Mr. Johnson belongs to the Foresters, the Mystic Workers and the Elks. The Baptist Church holds his membership. In politics he is a Republican. No man could advance as has Mr. Johnson unless he possessed unusual qualities and exceptionally good business judgment, and judging by his past he is likely to advance much further in his business career.

JOHNSON, P. A., superintendent and general manager of the Rockford Standard Furniture Company, with residence at No. 1136 Fifth avenue, is one of the men whose record demonstrates that no advance is impossible to the industrious, thrifty man with a good trade. He was born in Sweden, December 12, 1874. He was twenty-one years old when he left his native land for the United States, and prior to that had attended school. For three years after his arrival in this country he worked on a farm in Iowa, and then engaged with the Hobart M. Cable Piano Company of Freeport, Ill., remaining with that concern for five years more. In 1902 he entered the employ of the Rockford Standard Furniture Company as a machinist, and proved himself so expert a workman and so excellent a judge of human nature, qualifications necessary for a responsible position, that in January, 1913, he was made superintendent of this company, and since then has brought about very desirable results.

On May 6, 1903, Mr. Johnson was married at Rockford to Anna Lindbloom, and they have a daughter, Harriet D. He belongs to Zion Lutheran Church, and takes comfort in his religious associations as a conscientious man. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Johnson owns stock in the Drop Forge Company. He is now a man of ample means, but all that he has he has earned through his own efforts. Were all the men of Rockford as industrious and economical as those who come of Swedish birth, its prosperity could not be equalled by any city in the world.

JOHNSON, Swen A., who has not only been prominent as a business man, but has been equally important in the management of civic affairs, is now one of the highly valued residents of Rockford. He was born in Westergotland, Sweden, November 12, 1831, a son of Johannas and Anneka Johnson who died in Sweden. Swen A. Johnson attended the schools of his own land until he could read and write in his native tongue, and after coming to Rockford he went to night school to learn the English language.

In 1852 Mr. Johnson came to the United States and after spending a short period at

both St. Charles and Elgin, Ill., in November of that same year came to Rockford. A tailor by trade, he worked for several of the early established tailoring firms for ten years, and then in partnership with John E. Erlander, established a tailoring business of his own, continuing to operate it until 1864, when he branched out as a dealer in a general line of clothing, and the old association continued until 1885, when Mr. Erlander sold his interest to G. A. Wanstrom. The new firm continued until 1895, when Mr. Wanstrom sold his interest to Mr. Johnson, who remained alone until 1907, at which time he disposed of his business to his sons who still operate it.

In the fall of 1862 Mr. Johnson married Emily Peterson, born in Ystad Yetland, Sweden, a daughter of Carl M. and Johanna Peterson, who in 1854 came to Rockford. They bought a farm near Pecatonica, where they spent the balance of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson became the parents of the following children: Hillma, O., who was Mrs. A. Anderson, is now deceased; Amanda, who is Mrs. August Peterson of Rockford; Ada, who married Rev. Christerson, a Lutheran preacher, stationed at Humboldt Park, Ill.; Armer, who is secretary and treasurer of the Haddorff Piano Company of Rockford; Victor M., who is secretary of the Free Sewing Machine Company of Rockford; Cora V., who is a nurse now serving in Russia; Edmond L., who resides at Rockford, has his father's business; Maud, who is at home, is a public school teacher; and Leanns J., who is connected with the Haddorff Piano Company of Rockford. Mr. Johnson belongs to the First Swedish Lutheran Church of Rockford. He is a Republican and served as a member of the city council from the Sixth Ward for one term, being an efficient and conscientious official.

JOHNSON, William, president of the Swedish-American National Bank of Rockford, is not only numbered among the younger financiers of Winnebago County, but he is a public spirited man of considerable influence, and his efforts towards the upbuilding of his community have met with remarkable success. He was born at Chicago, Ill., October 23, 1876, a son of Swan Johnson.

When William Johnson was a child his father moved to a farm in Champaign County, Ill., and there he grew up and attended the schools in his district. He later took a commercial course at the business college of Paxton, Ill., earning the money to do so by working on farms during the summer months. In August, 1897, he began studying law at Dixon, Ill., and received the degree of LL. B., and was graduated from the oratorical course in 1900, when he received the further degree of LL. M., his other degree having been gained in 1899. For two and one-half years Mr. Johnson was with Attorney H. A. Brooks of Dixon, and then took the bar examination at Mt. Vernon, and was admitted to practice. Mr. Johnson then came to Rockford and opened an office at No. 527 Seventh street. Two years

later he was joined by his brother, Gust E. Johnson, and they formed a law partnership which has since continued, the latter being the present state's attorney. William Johnson was judge on the State Court of Claims from December, 1906, to April, 1913. Since the organization of the Swedish American National Bank, of which he was one of the founders, and its present executive, having held that office since the year 1912, Mr. Johnson has given a good deal of his time to the affairs of the bank. The firm of Johnson & Johnson acts as attorneys for this bank.

Fraternally Mr. Johnson belongs to the Odd Fellows, being a member of Tegner Lodge, I. O. O. F.; a member of the Encampment and Canton of the I. O. O. F. and is a past noble grand, a past chancellor, a past chief and a past commandant; is a member of John Nelson Lodge, K. of P.; a member of the Rockford Lodge of Elks; a member of Camp 20, Modern Woodmen of America; and a member of Linne Court, T. B. H. The Swedish Lutheran Church of Rockford holds his membership and has the advantages of his support.

Mr. Johnson was married at Amboy, Ill., December 28, 1905, to Minnie Landau, a daughter of William Landau. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have one daughter, Myrtle, who was born January 17, 1908, and is now a student of the Rockford public schools.

In addition to his other interests, Mr. Johnson was one of the organizers of the Swedish Hospital Association, and served for two years as its first president, and is now its secretary and trustee, having held these offices since its inception. Everything points towards the erection and completion of a hospital building at a cost of \$80,000. The association has the site, bought at a cost of about \$11,000, and about \$50,000 has been raised in reliable pledges. Robert C. Lind is the present president of this organization. Mr. Johnson is vice president of the Swedish Republican State League of Illinois, and is active in its work. The firm of Johnson & Johnson has a very large practice, and has been concerned in some of the most important cases in this part of the state. It would be difficult to find a more progressive or representative man than William Johnson, and Rockford is very proud of him and his connection with the city.

JOHNSTON, Edward J., whose sheet metal and heating establishment at No. 123 N. Court street, is one of the most fully equipped and reliable of its kind at Rockford, is a man who enjoys in the fullest degree the confidence and respect of all with whom he has dealings. He was born at Mattoon, Ill., April 10, 1870, a son of Joe and Mary (Gullen) Johnston. The father was born at Mattoon, Ill., and the mother at Beloit, Wis. Until 1861, the father was a jeweler at Mattoon, but in that year relinquished his business advantages to enlist for service in defense of his country during the Civil war, from Mattoon, and after being a soldier for four years, was honorably discharged and returned home.

His old business connections were difficult to readjust after so long an absence, and he decided to move to Decatur, Ill. There he began railroading, first as a fireman, later becoming an engineer, and finally a conductor, as such running from Decatur to St. Louis, Mo. Subsequently he was made yardmaster at Harvard, Ill., and held that position for two years. Then he came to Rockford and established himself in a plumbing and gas fitting business and carried it on until his retirement. He died at Milwaukee, Wis., in 1908, aged sixty-nine years. In politics he was a Republican. The mother survives and lives at No. 218 N. Court street. Her parents were engaged in a bakery business and later had an interest in a manufacturing plant.

Edward J. Johnston was educated at Mattoon and Rockford, and after leaving school was with Gill Bros., dentists, for three years. He then embarked in a sheet metal business with H. N. Starr, and was later with Mr. Drake for seven years, then with the Roy Warden Hardware Company for two years. Mr. Johnston then engaged with the Snyder Heating Company, and remained with that concern until 1912 when he started in business for himself at his present location, and his success justifies his good judgment in making the venture.

In 1893 Mr. Johnston was married to Miss Theresa Billhom, and they have two children, Marie and Leon M. Mr. Johnston is a member of the Royal Arcanum and the Eagles, and is very popular fraternally. The North Court Street Methodist Church holds his membership. In politics he is a Republican. A man of wide interests, Mr. Johnston lives up to his ideals of good citizenship, and is worthy a place in a work of this class for he is representative of the best element in the business life of Rockford.

JOHNSTON, Joseph, who during his lifetime was one of the substantial business men of Rockford, left behind him a record for industry, honesty of dealing, patriotism and uprightness of living. He was born at Waveland, Ind., June 29, 1844, a son of Henry and Asemath (Miller) Johnston, natives of Virginia. Joseph Johnston was a conductor on the Illinois Central Railroad until his marriage. Then he located at Mattoon, and went into the jewelry business. When his country had serious need of him to preserve the integrity of the Union, he enlisted for service during the Civil war in Company D, Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, at Mattoon, Ill., and served three years or until hostilities were over. He had the misfortune to be confined in Libby Prison at one time, and was wounded upon several occasions. After his discharge he returned to Mattoon, and resumed work with the Illinois Central Railroad as a conductor. In 1876 he moved to Rockford, Ill., and here became a steamfitter, carrying on that line of business until his death, April 23, 1909, since which time his widow has resided with their son William on N. Court street, Rockford.

On April 25, 1866, Mr. Johnston was married to Mary Gullen, born at Toronto, Canada, August 14, 1845, a daughter of Richard and Susan (Kennedy) Gullen, natives of the North of Ireland and Canada, respectively. Their children were as follows: William H., Edward, who resides at Rockford; Frank, who also resides at Rockford; Robert, who is in the United States regular army; Harriet, who is Mrs. James Alden, of Rockford; and Laura, who is Mrs. John Gray of Seattle. Mr. Johnston was a Methodist in religious faith. The Republican party had the benefit of his support, but he did not seek public honors. He was a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and Mrs. Johnston is a member of the Woman's Relief Corps.

JONES, Cassius Clay. Rockford would never have been developed into the metropolis it is today had it not been for the foresight, acumen and energy of some of its earlier residents, who had faith in its future and spirit enough to organize and maintain reliable business concerns. One of these excellent representatives of so desirable a class was the late Cassius Clay Jones. He was born at Seneca Falls, N. Y., May 3, 1845, a son of Walton and Mary (Edwards) Jones, both natives of New York. The father died when thirty-six years of age, and then the mother with her three children, in 1860, came to Rockford. All the children are now deceased, George dying in Illinois; Kate, who became Mrs. Lakin, dying in 1888; and Cassius Clay dying at Rockford, July 20, 1914.

In the early days of the Civil war, Cassius Clay Jones volunteered for service in the United States navy, and was assigned to the Vanderbilt, which vessel was stationed in the North Atlantic waters, and its duty was chasing blockade runners. When the Vanderbilt joined Gen. Butler's land forces at Fort Fisher, Mr. Jones saw his first hard service. The first attack by the Union forces, made on Christmas day, 1864, was a failure, but victory crowned their efforts in January, 1865, when the fort was captured by Gen. Terry with a force of 3,000 men. Mr. Jones was on duty at his gun every day during both attacks.

At the close of the war Mr. Jones returned to Albany, N. Y., from which place he had enlisted, and returned to his former position with the Boston & Albany Railroad, with which corporation he continued until 1867, when he came to Rockford to become bookkeeper and cashier in the general store of King & Edwards. His accuracy well qualified him for such a position and his financial sense was further recognized at a later date, when the banking firm of Wood & Company failed and, called to make a thorough investigation of the affairs of the institution, he completed the task entirely to the satisfaction of both creditors and stockholders. From this work he entered the Second National Bank of Rockford as assistant cashier and so continued for thirteen years. When he retired from the bank he became associated with Col. Lawler in a coal business which was extensively developed,

and he maintained this connection for five years, and then became secretary of the N. W. Coal Dealers' Association.

Mr. Jones was prominent in other directions. Col. Thomas D. Lawler chose him adjutant of the National Grand Army of the Republic when commander-in-chief of this organization, and Mr. Jones officially justified Col. Lawler's faith in him. He was always interested in measures that his judgment assured him would be beneficial to Rockford and often inaugurated the same. He served for several years as secretary of the Winnebago Agricultural Society, and also of the Rockford Driving Club. For two years, under Gov. Fifer's administration, he was state bank examiner for the district of Northern Illinois, under State Auditor McCullough for twelve years, and also for many years he was manager of the Rockford Opera House, which he built, and was one of the projectors of the Rockford Commercial Club. He was especially interested in the progress of the agricultural society, never forgetting that it was on the fair grounds that he was able, as a boy, to make his first money as a seller of popcorn and lemonade, little thinking at that time that in the future he would become an important official of the organization.

To some degree Mr. Jones was always interested in military matters, and in 1870, with George Silsby, he organized the Rockford Rifles, which was the first military company formed in the country after the Civil war. Mrs. Jones preserves with care a number of badges which, at different times, were presented to Mr. Jones by the Grand Army of the Republic. As host, after the first bitterness of the Civil war days was over, Mr. Jones took a party of men and women to visit the battlefields in the South, as a former soldier being able to make the trip exceedingly interesting to his guests. Occasionally he served in local offices, and in every relation and connection he was efficient and proved himself a man of broad outlook. Genial and hearty in manner, he was exceedingly companionable and his influence was ever exerted for good.

Mr. Jones was made a member of the board of supervisors of Winnebago County, and during the time he served as such, he was on three of the most important committees of that body, namely, the finance, fees and salaries and public grounds and buildings committees. When the board at one time decided it best to engage an expert auditor to audit the books of all the county officials for a period of ten years back, the members passed an unanimous vote in favor of appointing Mr. Jones as the man best fitted for this important work, and he accomplished it to the entire satisfaction of his associates. He was on the board and a member of the committee on public buildings when the question of erecting a new jail was submitted to the voters of the county, and a majority voted in favor of the proposition. He was one of the first to see that in a very few years more room would be required for county offices, and an addition to

the courthouse, with a jail on top was preferable to building an isolated jail, and then being compelled within a few years to build an addition to the courthouse. With this idea in view, he introduced a resolution, but his measure was defeated, and it was one of the desires of his life to live long enough to see his ideas carried out, but this was not granted him, although within a few months the building he visioned will be a reality, and to him should be given the credit for its conception and much of the agitation which finally resulted in its erection.

Before the advent of the political "machine," Winnebago County politics were managed by a quartette known as the "Old Guard," Col. Thomas G. Lawler, E. H. Marsh, Maj. George S. Roper and C. C. Jones. They did nothing in the way of machine politics. Party feeling ran high, and none objected to wearing the party collar. About all the leaders had to do was to get out the vote. No Republican ever thought of voting anything but the straight Republican ticket. The morning Mr. Jones left the house to go to the polls to cast his last vote at a presidential election, he turned back and said: "Remember, I have always voted the straight Republican ticket. Today I vote for Taft."

In 1869 Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Mary D. Hankinson. Their daughter, Grace, died in 1888, before her mother. On May 2, 1912, Mr. Jones was married to Electa E. Wood, at Waterloo, N. Y., her birthplace. This marriage was the consummation of a youthful attachment. Circumstances separated the young lovers, and years passed before their lives again ran in the same channel. Mr. Jones did not long survive, this happy union being broken by his death two years later.

JONES, C. Williams, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, in October, 1882, and there he grew to manhood. In 1904 he was married in Cincinnati, to Rosa Rawson, a daughter of John E. and Adelia (Woodruff) Rawson. One child, Ruth, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Jones, in November, 1906. Mr. Jones is a son of Ezekiel Philip and Anna (Guy) Jones. Mr. Jones was employed as a bookkeeper, and came to Rockford to accept a position with the Barber-Colman Company. He was brought up in the Presbyterian faith.

The Jones Dairy, which was located north of Rockford on Main street road, was started by Mrs. Jones, in December, 1910, with one cow. On account of the richness of the milk and general cleanliness of conditions, her business increased until the dairy was operated with thirty head of cows. The milk was bottled, carried in a specially made wagon, and two delivery trips were made daily. The output of the dairy was 300 quarts of milk and 150 pints of cream per day. Employment was given to four persons, and the most strenuous methods were pursued to insure absolute cleanliness and conformity to the state sanitary laws. All the cows were curried and washed before they were milked. The bottles and other utensils were



S. M. Woodruff.

sterilized in a steam boiler, and the machinery was operated by a gasoline engine. The farm comprised seventy acres and two silos were built to provide ensilage feed. Although not as large as some of the dairies, this one was noted for the purity of its products.

JONES, Joseph R., one of the efficient business men of Rockford, stands very high in public esteem and in the confidence of those with whom he is associated. He was born at Oneida, N. Y., August 9, 1859, a son of David P. and Jane (Roberts) Jones, natives of Wales. In 1865 the family came to Winnebago County, Ill., where the father was engaged in a well digging and drilling business and also worked as a stone mason.

Joseph R. Jones attended the public schools of his neighborhood, and Mrs. Cook's Business College, and during his youth worked at brick-making. In the spring of 1880 he was employed by Horace Brown, a banker, and in 1881 he went with Mr. Trigg in the marble business, as a setter. A year later he was with G. W. Roberts and remained for eight years. For several years thereafter, Mr. Jones was with Lindval Bros., in the same line, and then returned to Mr. Trigg, and continued with him for fourteen years. Mr. Jones then formed a partnership with Mr. Lindval, but a year later sold his interest, and went back once more to Mr. Trigg with whom he remained until October, 1910, when he became manager of the Rockford branch of the G. Karlson Marble and Granite and Cement Company of Geneva, Ill. Since he assumed charge, this branch office has more than doubled its business each year.

In the fall of 1881 Mr. Jones was married to Charlotte E. Ralston, born in Boone County, Ill., a daughter of Alexander and Elizabeth Ralston, natives of Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. Jones had one son, Alexander, who died in infancy, and Mrs. Jones died in 1908. In May, 1911, Mr. Jones married (second) Elizabeth (Boner) Baker, born in England, the widow of Henry Baker. She had four children as follows: Maggie, who is Mrs. Charles Plaister of Ogle County, Ill.; Carl, who resides in Ogle County; Agnes, who is Mrs. F. Ertmold of Rockford; and Kerman, who lives with Mr. and Mrs. Jones. Mr. Jones belongs to the Congregational Church. In politics he is a Republican. He belongs to the order of Homesteaders. A man of unusual business ability, he also possesses a thorough and practical knowledge of his calling, and is recognized as one of the most expert marble men in this section.

JONES, R. G., superintendent of schools of Rockford, was born at Kansas City, Mo., but two years later was taken to Ohio. His educational training was received in the public schools of that state, and in the Ohio Central Normal College, from which he was graduated. He took a subsequent course of study at the Ohio Northern University, from which he was graduated with the degree of A. B., and still

later he took his Master's degree from Columbia University, New York City, N. Y.

Mr. Jones served as an instructor in the rural and village schools, after which he was appointed superintendent of schools at Gibson City, Ill., which position he held for five years, leaving it for a similar position at Lexington. For the subsequent five years he was superintendent of schools at Harvard, Ill., and for six years served the people of Kewanee, Ill., in a similar capacity. Three years ago, the board of education of Rockford, offered Mr. Jones the superintendency of the Rockford schools, and he accepted, and has continued in this position ever since.

JONES, Samuel N., one of the honored veterans of the Civil war, has long been known in Winnebago County. He was born at Woodstock, Conn., April 2, 1843, a son of Nathaniel and Alma (Corbin) Jones. On August 15, 1862, he enlisted in the Eighteenth Connecticut Volunteer Infantry for service during the Civil war, and was mustered out at Harper's Ferry, June 29, 1865. In September of that year he came to Rockford.

On February 14, 1871, Mr. Jones was married to Elenor Pierpont, a daughter of Guy and Jerusha (Gaylord) Pierpont, and a sister of Theron Gaylord Pierpont. Mrs. Jones attended the district public schools and Rockford College. After marriage Mr. Jones resided at Rockford and conducted a pump and wind mill business in that city, and later was associated with the Rockford Construction Company. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Jones have been as follows: Andros Corbin, who lives at Lockport, N. Y., is with the Niagara Cotton Bating Company as sales manager; Alma E., who conducts a dressmaking establishment in the Brown Building at Rockford, Ill.; and Guy Pierpont, who lives at Sacramento, Cal., is a member of the California State Board of Health. Mr. Jones has been quite prominent politically, serving as alderman and supervisor, and he has proven his worth as a man and a citizen. Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R. holds his membership, and he belongs to the Masonic order.

JONES, Willis O., vice president and manager of the Illinois School Furniture Company of Rockford, Ill., with residence at No. 1010 Ridge avenue, is one of the men through whose energy and progressive foresight the city has reached its present enviable position as a commercial and industrial center. Mr. Jones was born at Owensboro, Ky., January 13, 1883, a son of James H. and Lizzie (Tapp) Jones, retired farmers who live at Owensboro, Ky.

Willis O. Jones attended the public schools of his native place, and then took a course at the Lockyear Business College, Evansville, Ind. Upon leaving that institution, he obtained employment as a bookkeeper and was then salesman for the R. O. Evans Company of his native place, but later went with the Peter & Volz Company of Arlington Heights, Ill., where he

remained until February, 1912, when he came to Rockford and bought the plant of the Standard Woodworking Company, and formed his present company. This company is in excellent condition and its product is in great demand.

On April 25, 1906, Mr. Jones was married to Myrtle Watson of Owensboro, Ky. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have the following children: Dell, Preston and Willis O., Jr. Mr. Jones brought his family to Rockford upon his purchase of his business, and he and his wife connected themselves with the Court Street Methodist Church. In politics he is a Democrat. He is a member of Rockford Lodge of Elks No. 64, Golden Spur Lodge, K. P. No. 190, and Owensboro Lodge, A. F. & A. M. No. 130. An energetic, carefully trained man he has steadily forged to the front and is recognized as one of the competent and representative business men of Rockford.

JONSON, Albert, who is now deceased, was for many years a manufacturer of wood finishings, with plant located at Rockford, where he developed a fine business and made himself an important factor in the commercial life of the city. He was born in Sweden, January 31, 1867, a son of Carl and Hammah Jonson. The father was also a native of Sweden, and became a large landowner and dealt in timber extensively until in the eighties, when he brought his family to the United States, settling at first in Martin County, Minn. There he engaged in farming and made that county his home until 1897 when he removed to Rockford, Ill., where he built a snuff factory and operated it for some years. He was very successful both in Sweden, and this country, accumulating considerable property. He died March 15, 1915. He was a Republican and a member of the Lutheran Church. The mother, also a native of Sweden, was a daughter of large landowners and her parents never left Sweden.

Albert Jonson attended school both in Sweden and Minnesota, and assisted his father in farming until 1892 when he came to Rockford, Ill. After his father established his snuff factory, Mr. Jonson was in charge of it for a few years, and then bought the old Rockford Paint factory and the new business was started under the firm name of Jonson & Son. Later the name was changed to that of the Rockford Wood Finishing Company. In the year 1910 he sold to the Rockford Varnish Company, and became secretary and manager of the new company, so continuing until the close of his life. He was accidentally killed at Clinton, Iowa, by a railroad train, February 4, 1914. In 1907 Mr. Jonson returned to his native land to join his wife who had gone to Sweden in 1906, and they spent the summer there together visiting different points, and also traveled through other parts of Europe.

In 1903 Mr. Jonson was married to Alida Nelson, a daughter of Carl and Marie (Anderson) Nelson, at Rockford, Ill. Her parents were

natives of Sweden, and in 1887 the father came to the United States and located at Rockford where he was employed in different lines of business. When he retired he bought a comfortable residence on Sixth street, Rockford, and lived there until his death in 1907, at the age of seventy-two years. The mother survives and makes her home with her children. Mr. Nelson was a Republican and a member of the Lutheran Church of Rockford.

Mr. and Mrs. Jonson became the parents of the following children: Carol E., Carl Stuart, and Barbara M. Mr. Jonson espoused the principles of Republicanism. He was a member of the Emanuel Church at Rockford. His sudden death was sincerely deplored for it removed from Rockford one of its substantial men and desirable citizens.

JOSLYN, Judson S., proprietor and manager of the Joslyn Auto Company, at No. 320 S. Church street, is one of the progressive men of Rockford who has known how to meet a popular demand, and to benefit by it. His own name standing back of any product is a guarantee of its merit, for the people know that he would not handle any but reliable goods of any kind. He was born at Rockton, Ill., February 3, 1866, a son of Alecsius C. and Lucy (Peterson) Joslyn. The father was born at Nunda, N. Y., and the mother at Rockton, Ill. When he was a small boy the father was brought to Chicago by his parents, and there the grandfather engaged in a general merchandise business on Lake street for a number of years. He died in Chicago. The grandmother died at Nunda, N. Y.

Alecsius C. Joslyn became self-supporting at an early age, and when only eighteen years old drove the omnibus for the old Sherman House, in Chicago, and continued in the same line of business for some years. He became associated with Frank Parmalee, of the same city, and was one of the first men to maintain such connections with the great transfer magnate. After some years Mr. Joslyn came to Rockton, and was in the general store of Wait, Vaness & Joslyn for some years. He then went to Elgin, Ill., and engaged in a wholesale oil and grease business which he subsequently sold to the Standard Oil Company. In 1905 he came to Rockford, where he is now living, retired. Both he and wife make their home with their son, Judson S. Joslyn, at No. 968 N. Main street. Mr. Joslyn is a Republican politically. In religious faith he is a Baptist.

Judson S. Joslyn was reared at Rockton and Elgin, and attended the public schools of the latter place, and the Elgin Academy. He assisted his father for a time in the oil and grease business, and later became a traveling salesman for the Standard Oil Company, being thus associated for fifteen years. He then located at Rockford to take charge of the company's interests at this point, and held such position for five years. Mr. Joslyn then bought the old Rockford Tack Company plant on the water power, and conducted the business for

four years. At the same time he engaged in an automobile repairing business and handled the Jeffery automobile. Subsequently he disposed of his tack business and has since devoted himself exclusively to his automobile business, and continues to handle the Jeffery cars.

In 1881 Mr. Joslyn was married to Miss A. May Hood, a daughter of Albert and Betsey Hood of Winooski, Vt., who never came to the West. Mr. and Mrs. Joslyn have one child, Gladys. They reside in their beautiful home at No. 968 N. Main street. Fraternally Mr. Joslyn is a Mason and Elk, and his political opinions made him a Republican. He is a man of unusual business ability and has made a success of whatever he has undertaken. During one year he was president of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce.

KANE, Joseph J., foreman of the action regulating department of the Haddorff Piano Company, is one of the most skilled workmen in his class at Rockford, if not in the piano trade. He was born at Galesburg, Ill., January 22, 1880. After receiving a common school education at Galesburg and Chicago, he began his career as a piano workman with the W. W. Kimball Company, with which he remained for over a year, when he went with the Cable Piano Company, and there continued until 1900. At that time he engaged with the Hamilton Company, returning to the Cable Company at St. Charles, Ill., in 1901. After six years, during which period he was inspector of the fine regulating of that company, he came to Rockford, entering the employ of the Haddorff Piano Company in 1907, working in their action regulating department. In 1909 he was made foreman of this department and has held this important position ever since to the entire satisfaction of his employers and workmen.

In 1913 Mr. Kane was married to Katherine W. McNevin. He is a Catholic and belongs to St. Mary's Church. A young man of great skill he has forged ahead and owes his present position not to the influence of friends, but to his own ability and faithful work.

KARLZEN, Gust, progressive in all his methods, and a man who neglects nothing to increase his business and improve his output. He was born at Vastarvik, Sweden, April 15, 1877, and his parents still reside in Sweden. In 1903 Mr. Karlzen left his native land for the United States, and stopped at Joliet, Ill., where he worked as a stone cutter, having learned his trade in his native land. Six months later he went to Dwight, Ill., in a year returned to Joliet but in ten months went to Geneva, Ill. At the latter place he formed a partnership with John Widen for the purpose of conducting a monument business, and in 1913 established a branch at Rockford, on the corner of Rural and Prospect streets, where he gives employment to two men. From six to eleven men are required at the Geneva plant. In the spring of 1908, Mr. Karlzen bought out his partner, and has since then conducted both

places alone. In addition to his residence at Geneva, Mr. Karlzen owns a valuable cement block in the business district, two houses, and a fine business corner at Rockford, and his business shows a rapid and healthy increase.

In 1898 Mr. Karlzen was married in Sweden to Amanda Swenson, born in Sweden, a daughter of Nels Swenson, who with his wife still resides in Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Karlzen became the parents of the following children: Esther, who is attending the Aurora College, and Violet, who is attending the public schools. In addition to his educational training in his native land, Mr. Karlzen took a course in an evening school after arriving in this country. While still living in Sweden he was a member of the police force and was on the school board, and after locating at Geneva, he has been a member of the board of education, and served in the city council, being elected to both on the Republican ticket. Fraternally he belongs to the Odd Fellows, North Star, Yeoman of America and other organizations. The family are active members of the Swedish M. E. Church at Geneva. Alert, hard-working and thrifty, Mr. Karlzen has forged ahead and is admittedly one of the thriving business men of both Rockford and Geneva.

KEIG, William H., manufacturer of bakery goods at No. 614 to 624 Cedar street, is one of the substantial factors in the industrial life of Rockford, and his uprightness and sound business principles have won him the confidence and respect of a wide circle. He was born at Rockford May 21, 1863, a son of Edward and Catherine (Quale) Keig. Edward Keig was born on the Isle of Man, where he married, his wife also being a native of the place. A tailor, the father followed his trade until 1843, when he came to the United States, landing at Philadelphia, from whence he drove to Chicago, and thence to Rockford. After his arrival at Rockford he became a solicitor and was so engaged the remainder of his life, passing away at the age of seventy-two years. The mother died at the age of seventy-one years. In politics the father was a Republican. He and the mother were consistent members of the Methodist church.

William H. Keig grew to manhood in his native city, where he was educated. His first business experience was with W. B. Clark, baker, who was his brother-in-law. After maintaining this connection for seven years Mr. Keig went into partnership with Mr. Clark, and they operated two bakeries, one on the corner of Kishwaukee and State streets, and the other at No. 405 W. State street. After two years the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Keig taking charge of the W. State street store, and his partner of the other. In 1899 Mr. Keig bought the Old Forest City Baking Company's business, and occupies its former quarters. Here he carries on a wholesafe business, shipping considerable to outside towns, and he still conducts his bakery at No. 405 W. State street, all of his enterprises being in a flourishing condition.

In 1890 Mr. Keig was married to Miss Margie Stevens, a daughter of A. F. and Fadelia (Cole) Stevens of Massachusetts. Mr. Stevens came to Rockford at an early day, dying in this city at his home on Peach street. The mother died in 1907. The Keig family residence is at No. 602 Garfield street. In addition to other interests, Mr. Keig is treasurer of the Forest City Life Association Company, and a director of the Chamber of Commerce. Fraternally he is a Mason and an Elk. His political affiliations are with the Republican party. Alert, fully alive to the possibilities of his business, Mr. Keig has forged ahead and his prosperity is well merited.

KEITH, Adam, one of the substantial men of Winnebago County now deceased, came of a long line of distinguished and honorable ancestry. He was born at Olive Green, Morgan County, Ohio, November 7, 1825, and died July 25, 1896. The American progenitor of the Keith family was Peter Keith, a native of Germany, who came to the United States at an early day. Having learned bell making in his native land, he followed that line of work in his new home, and was well known for the superiority of his productions in both Pennsylvania and Ohio communities. He was also interested in farming.

Adam Keith, son of Peter Keith and father of Adam Keith whose name heads this review, was born in Pennsylvania. In boyhood his parents moved to Ohio and he was reared on a farm in the latter state. His death occurred in Furnace County, Neb., where he moved in later life. His first wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Shirley, bore him the following children: Henry, Ruhanny, Benjamin, Louis, Adam, Elizabeth, Mary, Nancy and Joseph. He married (second) Hannah Harris, and they had the following children: Jasper, Richard, Maria, Hannah, Caroline, Ruhanny, Athelyndia, Isabell and Henrietta.

Adam Keith, son of Adam Keith, and grandson of Peter Keith, was brought to Winnebago County in 1835, by his parents. They settled on the east side of Rock River, on what was later named Keith Creek, in honor of the family. There Adam Keith engaged in farming, assisting his parents, until 1847, when he went to Burritt Township and took up 160 acres of land from the government. This he conducted until his death, adding to his acreage until he owned 345 acres of very valuable land. On it he carried on general farming and was very successful, and specialized in fine horses and sheep. At his death his remains were interred in the East Side Cemetery, Rockford. He was active until within a few days of his death. A Universalist, he died in that faith. His first marriage took place May 2, 1846, when he was married, by Rev. Hewitts, to Martha S. Holmes, born July 16, 1824, at Bradford, England, a daughter of William and Margaret (Spencer) Holmes, and their children were as follows: Elizabeth, who was born February 14, 1847, married January 23, 1871, James L. Dickerson,

M. D., and died in January, 1913; William, who was born May 18, 1848, and died March 4, 1913, and is buried in Cedar Bluff Cemetery, Rockford; Josephine, who was born December 14, 1851, died January 28, 1852; Martha, who was born February 20, 1856; Jessie, who was born May 29, 1858, married December 26, 1882, Frederick Putney, and has a son, William H., who conducts the Keith homestead farm. Adam Keith married (second) Nancy Hilton, who died September 7, 1869. They had a daughter, Nancy, who married Jesse Hopkins and lives in Chicago. The Keith family is one of the oldest and most highly respected of any of Winnebago County, and no history of this region would be complete without a record of it.

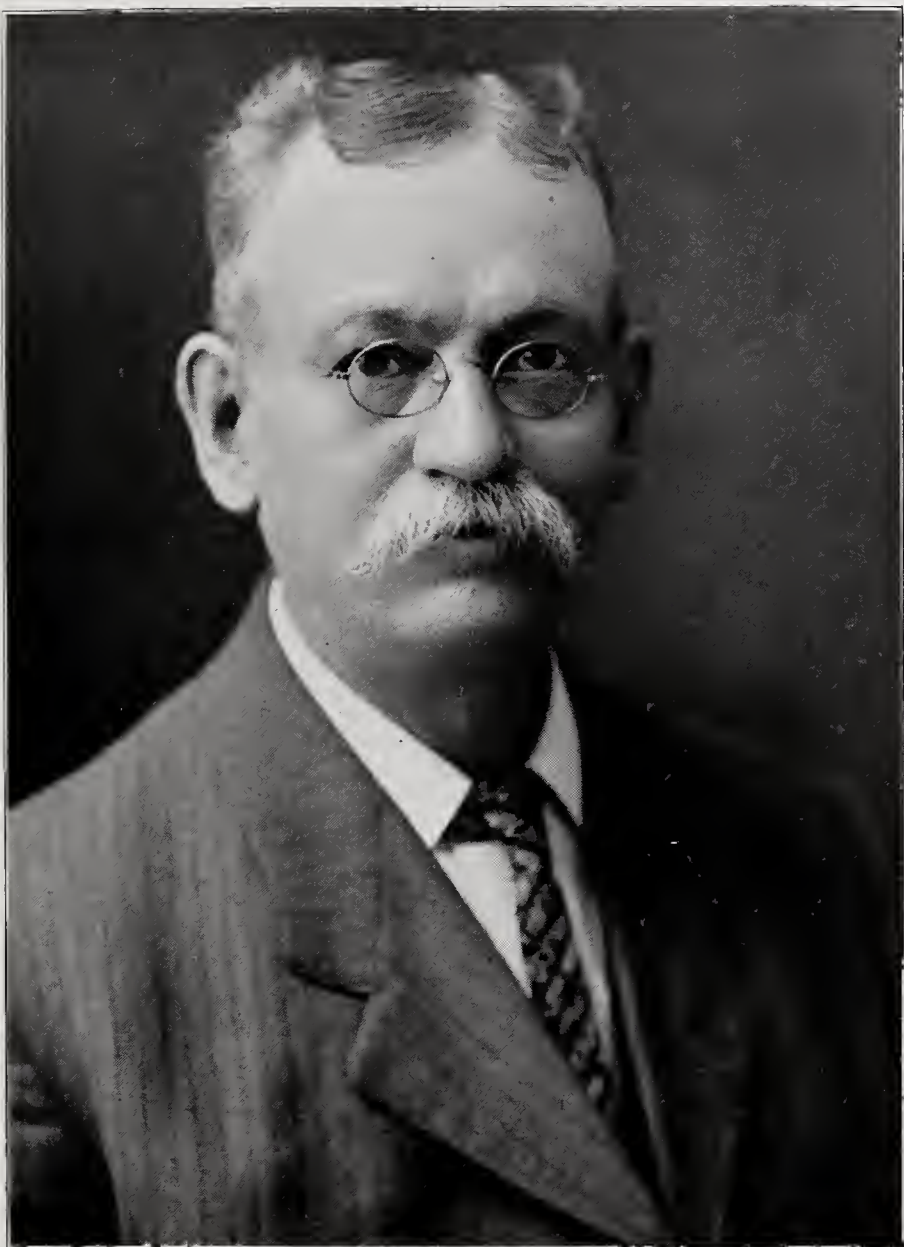
KELSEY, Alvin Marion, who for many years was well known at La Salle and Rockford as a skillful dentist, is now deceased, but his memory is cherished by those who knew and appreciated him, personally as well as professionally. He was born at Brandon, Vt., in 1826, but came to Illinois in an early day, and engaged in active practice as a dentist in Kane County. In 1860, Dr. Kelsey moved to La Salle, Ill., where he continued in practice until 1870, when he came to Rockford. His practice was a large and valuable one, but in 1882 he was forced to abandon it on account of failing eyesight, and he then retired, thus living until his death, April 12, 1902.

On March 10, 1858, Dr. Kelsey was married at Rockford, to Carrie L. Butts, of this city, born in New York state, April 6, 1837, a daughter of Hiram and Anna (Van Branken) Butts, natives of Connecticut and New York state, respectively. The mother of Mrs. Kelsey was of Holland descent. Dr. and Mrs. Kelsey had the following children: Clarence Mason, who lives at Chicago; Nellie, who died when three and one-half years old; Hattie, who is the widow of Frank Burr of Haskell avenue, Rockford; and Frank, who died in 1908. Mrs. Kelsey was educated in a New York academy, and taught school for three years prior to her marriage. She came to Geneva, Ill., in 1857, where she taught school for one year. In politics Dr. Kelsey was a Republican. Fraternally he was a Mason. As a man he was widely known and universally respected.

KEMBLE, John C., page 647.

KEMP, Joseph, page 639.

KENDALL, Charles M., assistant manager and member of the firm of the E. & W. Clothing Company, located at Nos. 118, 120 and 122 S. Main street, Rockford, is one of the enterprising business men of the city, one whose efforts have assisted in developing many solid interests. He was born at Corinth, N. Y., June 21, 1878, a son of Charles H. and Mary (Wendall) Kendall. The father was born near Rutland, Vt., and the mother was born in New York state. Early in life the father practiced law in his



Biram H. Young

native state, but when he moved to Saratoga Springs, N. Y., he went into a hotel business and continued it for five years, then retiring and removing to Corinth, N. Y., where he died in February, 1883. The mother died in December, 1884. The father belonged to the Odd Fellows. In religious faith he was a Methodist.

In his native place Charles M. Kendall lived until he was twelve years old, at that time going to Saratoga Springs where he completed his school course. Later he was employed as a clerk in a shoe store at Troy, N. Y., and still later was made manager of a shoe store at Little Falls, N. Y. Returning then to Troy, he was manager of a similar store there for six years, coming then to Rockford where he became manager for the E. & W. Company's shoe department. He invested in stock in the company and is now a member of the firm. As he has been almost constantly identified with the shoe trade since entering business life, Mr. Kendall is admittedly a most experienced shoe man and through his knowledge and ability the affairs of his department in the E. & W. Company are in a flourishing condition. A progressive citizen, he is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. In fraternal life he is a Mason and an Elk. The Country, Motor and Advertising clubs all rank him as a valued member.

In 1901 Mr. Kendall was married to Miss Emma Clappin, a daughter of Henry Clappin, of Troy, N. Y.

KENT, Aratus, page 754.

KENT, Germanicus, page 639.

KERN, John Martin, who is numbered among the leading retired men of Rockford, resides in his fine home at No. 608 N. Third street, also owning the adjoining property, and enjoys the confidence of his neighborhood. He was born in Wittenburg, Germany, May 6, 1833, a son of Jacob and Anna Kern who died in Germany.

Prior to leaving Germany when sixteen years old, John Martin Kern had attended the public schools of his native place. He made the trip across seas with his brother Jacob, and they located at Detroit, Mich., where he worked for four weeks at tailoring, then went to Canada and continued working at this trade until he made his way to Chicago where he worked for two years. On account of an epidemic of cholera, he left that city and went to St. Charles, Ill., where he did journeyman work as a tailor and remained there for fifteen years. In 1867 he came to Rockford and worked for others for a few years, when he went into business for himself on S. Main street. Two years later he sold his business, and then worked for George Atkinson, a tailor, with whom he remained for sixteen years. Mr. Kern was then employed in a dye house as presser until 1913, when he retired.

While living at St. Charles, Mr. Kern was married, March 6, 1856, to Sophia Nelson, born in Sweden. They became the parents of the following children: Emma, who is Mrs. Ed-

ward Rayney, of Chicago; Albert, who is deceased; Charles, who lives at Belvidere, Ill.; Anna, who is Mrs. Charles Bengston, a widow, lives at No. 1208 Revell avenue, Rockford; Julia, who is deceased; Amanda, who is Mrs. E. A. Wettergren, of Rockford; Mabelle, who is Mrs. Oscar Hanson, of Rockford; and Victor, who is deceased. Mrs. Kern died March 9, 1892. On August 22, 1900, Mr. Kern was married (second) to Carrie Ginders, born at Rockford, a daughter of George and Mary (Peck) Ginders, farming people, born in Lincolnshire, England. There are no children of the second marriage. Mr. Kern is a Methodist. In politics he is a Republican. No man stands any higher in public esteem than he and he deserves the good opinion of those who know him for he has earned it.

KERR, William. Now holding the position of custodian of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Building, at Rockford, William Kerr is one of the well known men of Winnebago County who, in the dark days of the Civil war, went cheerfully to the front in defense of their country's flag. Incapacitated in that conflict, he returned to his home to take up the duties of peace, and since then has been engaged in a variety of pursuits, and has held a number of official positions, and in every way has shown himself a useful and properly esteemed member of society.

William Kerr was born near Montreal, at Cornwell, Lower Canada, November 17, 1837, and is a son of Charles and Anna (Larkin) Kerr, the former born at Frazerborough, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, in 1801, and the latter at Somerset, Somersetshire, England, in 1817. Both emigrated to Canada as young people and were there married. A stonecutter by trade, Charles Kerr developed into a contractor and as such did work on the Saint Lawrence Canal. In 1838 he came to Lockport, Ill., where he had a contract on the Illinois and Michigan Canal, and in 1841 came to Roscoe, Winnebago County, where he settled down to farming for the remainder of his life. He died in February, 1873. Mrs. Kerr having passed away in the November preceding.

William Kerr attended the district schools and the high school at Roscoe, Ill., and was reared on the home farm, where he resided until the time of his first marriage, September 21, 1859, to Anna Jane Emmons, of Poplar Grove, Boone County, Ill., daughter of Nathaniel Emmons. In the winter of 1859-60 he was engaged in teaching school in Boone County, and in the following year worked on a farm, renting, in the fall of 1860, a small farm in Winnebago County. He was engaged in farming there at the time of his enlistment, June 2, 1862, at Rockford, Ill., in Company C, Sixty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to service at Camp Douglas, Chicago, for camp and garrison duty. He continued to be so occupied there until being mustered out of the service, September 27, 1862, being so disabled that he did not rejoin his

regiment. Mr. Kerr then returned to farming and purchased a small piece of land in Winnebago County, but this he sold at the time of his wife's death, June 16, 1870. They were the parents of five children: William L., of Fort Dodge, Iowa, department commander of the Sons of Veterans for that state; Frances E., who is the wife of Wallace Peters, of Wichita, Kas.; Charles Grant, who died at the age of sixteen years, March 11, 1880; James B., of Fort Dodge, Iowa; and George E., of Saint Cloud, Minn.

On October 5, 1873, Mr. Kerr was married (second) to Mrs. Harriet A. (Easton) Dyer, the widow of James Dyer. She died August 15, 1905, and September 18, 1907, Mr. Kerr married Amelia (Mitchell) Tessier, the widow of Alfred Tessier, who, by her first marriage, had five children: Laura L., who is now Mrs. W. H. Hemmingway, of Rockford, Ill.; Estella, who is Mrs. William Easton, of 323 North Fourth street, Rockford; Alfred M., a resident of Henry, S. Dak.; Zola, who lives with her mother and step-father; and Ada, who is Mrs. T. A. Gallagher, of Rockford.

After the death of his first wife, Mr. Kerr conducted his father's farm for two years and then moved to Roscoe, where he resided for one summer. In November, 1873, he moved to Rockford and engaged in the painting business, and followed this vocation for thirty years, retiring therefrom when appointed to his present position as custodian of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Building at Rockford, where is located G. L. Nevius Post, of the Grand Army of the Republic, of which he was chaplain for nine years. Mr. Kerr is a Republican in his political views, and in 1866 was elected collector of Harlem Township. He is affiliated with Trinity Lutheran Church. Mr. Kerr is widely known in fraternal circles, having joined the Masons at Roscoe, Ill., in 1865. He served as junior warden and worshipful master and for four years as senior deacon, and then transferred to Rockford Lodge No. 102, of which he has been for three years senior deacon. He belongs also to Arthur Lodge No. 31, Knights of Pythias, at Rockford, of which he has been prelate and chancellor commander, and to Rockford Camp No. 51, Modern Woodmen of America.

KESSLER, Frank Peter, now deceased, but for many years a man of prominence in his community, and an honored employe of the Illinois Central Railroad, is well remembered by many people of Rockford. He was a native son of the city, born October 20, 1869, a son of Henry and Delia (Davis) (Devoe) Kessler. The father was born in Pennsylvania, and the mother in Oswego, N. Y., in 1842. The paternal grandparents were of Pennsylvania birth and the maternal grandparents, Harvey K. and Maria (Miller) Davis, were of Oswego, N. Y. Prior to her marriage with Henry Kessler, the mother of Frank Peter Kessler was married at Warren, N. Y., October 12, 1856, to George Devoe, and they had one son, William, who resides at No. 4 Stanley

street, Rockford. Mr. Devoe died at Utica, N. Y., and in 1865 his widow came to Rockford, where, on July 10, 1867, she married Henry Kessler, a blacksmith, who is still living at Rockford. They had one son, Frank Peter Kessler.

After he had finished his course in the public schools of Rockford, Frank Peter Kessler began working in the freight office of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, becoming yardmaster. Later he became a brakeman, and then conductor for the Illinois Central Railroad, and was acting in the latter capacity at the time of his death, November 25, 1911. The road had no more efficient or conscientious man, and his services were highly appreciated.

On February 17, 1892, Mr. Kessler was married to Nora Curn, born in County Waterford, Ireland, a daughter of Edward and Mary (Tobin) Curn, who died in Ireland. Mrs. Kessler came to the United States in 1881, locating at South Wayne, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Kessler became the parents of the following children: Edward and Charles, who are at home; Marie, who is Mrs. Charles Alberts, of Rockford; and Mildred. Mrs. Kessler and her children live in a beautiful home at No. 1237 S. Winnebago street. Mr. Kessler was a Republican. He belonged to the B. of R. T. He was a Catholic and lived up to his faith in his everyday life.

KEYE, William Charles, a prosperous grocer at No. 813 W. State street, has one of the most inviting and sanitary establishments of its kind at Rockford. He was born in North Staffordshire, England, January 6, 1869, a son of Charles and Anna A. (Ash) Keye, natives of the same place as their son. The father was a landscape gardener, and also sold shrubbery for different firms, and dealt in nursery stock of all kinds. In young manhood he was an athlete and won many honors in track events, but died in 1888, aged forty-four years. The mother had died some time prior to that date, of typhoid fever.

William Charles Keye was reared and educated in England and there learned the manufacture of fancy tile for flooring, and followed this work until he was twenty-three years old. In 1892 he left England for the United States with his brother R. E. Keye, and the brothers located in Harlem Township, this county, where William Charles Keye first worked as a farm hand for a short time, but soon came to Rockford, where he worked at whatever came to his hand, carriage painting for a short time, then at handling butter, eggs and cream, and then sold real estate. From 1899 to 1913 he was located at No. 112 N. First street in a butter, egg and cream business. On December 31, 1913, he opened his present store at No. 813 W. State street, where he carries a full and varied line of staple and fancy groceries, specializing in butter, eggs, milk and cream. His store is one of the most modern and complete in the city, and his business is a large and profitable one. His political proclivities make him a Progressive. Mr. Keye is not the only one of his name in the county, for he has one brother, R. E. Keye,

who conducts a store on the East Side. Another brother, Thomas H. Keye, lived on a farm in Harlem Township, where he died in March, 1916. These three industrious, intelligent men made the best of their opportunities, and the survivors are correctly included among the representative men of Winnebago County.

KIEGEL, J. H., proprietor of the Kiegel grocery store, at No. 429 S. Winnebago street, one of the leading grocery and provision establishments of this part of Rockford, is one of the sound, reliable men of the county. He was born at Rockport, Spencer County, Ind., April 6, 1882, a son of Michael and Catherine (Miller) Kiegel, natives of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Spencer County, Ind. The father was brought to Spencer County, Ind., by his parents, and the family there secured government land, on which a log house was built. The grandparents passed away on this farm which they had considerably improved. The father was educated in Spencer County, Ind., and there married. He rented land for a number of years, but eventually bought his present farm, where he and the mother are now living. In politics he is a Democrat. The Roman Catholic Church holds their membership.

J. H. Kiegel spent his boyhood in his native county, and lived there until he was twenty-three years old, but at that time he went to Owensboro, Ky., and was with the Kentucky Buggy Company for three years, gaining a knowledge of business conditions. For the following year Mr. Kiegel was with the carriage works at Huntingburg, Ind., and then went to Chicago where he was employed by Durgard & Kasper, wholesale grocers. After a year with this concern he went to Freeport, Ill., and worked in the carriage factory there for a year, and then came to Rockford. From May 6, 1910, to August 24, 1914, Mr. Kiegel was in the employ of the Emerson-Brantingham Company, but on the latter date he bought the grocery business of Kauffmay Bros., on S. Winnebago street, and has since continued to conduct it as a first class establishment, and his trade is a large and constantly increasing one.

On July 15, 1913, Mr. Kiegel was married to Miss Sue Gunnar, born March 27, 1888, who died February 29, 1916, and was buried in the Catholic cemetery. She was a daughter of Charles E. and Sue (Murphy) Gunnar, formerly of Madison, Wis., but now of Rockford. Her father was born in England, and her mother at Madison, Wis. Mrs. Kiegel left one son, Albert C., born Dec. 22, 1915.

KILBURN, Benjamin, page 649.

KILBURN, S. A., whose operations as an electrical contractor are of such wide scope that he is a well-known man in his profession, not only at Rockford, but throughout a wide contiguous territory, is located at No. 514 W. State street. He was born February 18, 1858, a son of Milton and Adeline (Parker) Kilburn. The parents were born at Keene, N. H., where they

were married, but came west in 1836, locating at Rockford. Here the father purchased land, improved it to some extent and lived upon it until his death in 1863, when he was fifty-eight years old. This farm was located three miles northwest of Rockford and comprised a half section of land. The mother lived until aged eighty-three years, dying in 1898. After the death of the father, the mother sold the farm and moved to Rockford. While residing in New Hampshire, the father was a druggist. After he came to Rockford Township he developed into a man of prominence and was the first justice of the peace in that township.

S. A. Kilburn grew up in his native place, and after completing a course at Prof. Lounsbury's academy, he accepted a position with the American Express Company, and remained with that concern for five years. Desiring to better his condition, he then went with the Central Union Telephone Company as an electrician, and rendered them efficient service for twelve years. Later he became manager for the Union Telephone Company at Dixon, and after a connection that lasted six years, he came to Rockford. In addition to severing his business relations when he left Dixon, Mr. Kilburn regretted the necessity of resigning from the Dixon band, of which he was a highly valued member. Upon coming to Rockford he began taking contracts for electrical work, his place of business being first in the Second National Bank building, but later he was on Chestnut street, and still later he came to his present location, where he has built up a valuable patronage, and is a recognized expert in his profession.

In 1898 Mr. Kilburn was married to Lillie Guthrie, a daughter of John and Rachel Guthrie, of Dixon, Ill. Mr. Kilburn belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and stands well in that order. In politics he is a Republican. A man of trained skill, he understands the requirements of his business, and his connections make it possible for him to execute his contracts in a manner highly satisfactory to all concerned.

KIMBALL, C. T. Some of the enterprising men of Winnebago County have proven by experiment that it pays them better to specialize along some certain line in agricultural endeavor than to devote themselves to a general farming business. Such a man is C. T. Kimball of Rockton Township who is making a remarkable success of his pheasant farm. He was born at Madison, Wis., in 1858, a son of J. W. and Mary A. (Lamphere) Kimball, natives of Massachusetts and Vermont, respectively. He remained with his parents through boyhood and then went to Janesville, Wis., where he lived until 1897. In the meanwhile he had attended the public schools of his neighborhood and began learning the moulder's trade when fourteen years old. He worked at this trade for eighteen years before he came to Rockford and continued in this city for five years. Mr. Kimball then went to Beloit, Wis., and began raising golden pheasants. Later he came to Rockton Township, this county and

secured sixty-two and one-half acres of land. The beginning of this industry was twenty-six eggs of which he made two settings, and from them he secured seventeen chicks. Of these eleven lived, six being roosters. He now has forty pens, each one containing four hens and one rooster, and keeps on adding pens each year. It is impossible to supply the demand although each hen yields from eighty to one hundred eggs per season. These eggs sell for \$18 per hundred.

Mr. Kimball was married at Janesville, Wis., to Mary E. James, and they have two children: Nellie E., who is Mrs. Wilson Rector of Marshfield, Wis.; and Alice J., who is Mrs. J. J. Reed of Beloit, Wis. Mrs. Kimball died in 1908. Mr. Kimball belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and to the Beavers. He is a man of untiring industry and original ideas and his success is opening up a new field for farmers in this locality.

KIMBALL, Henry P., page 705.

KINNEY, William M., a prosperous retired farmer of Durand, Ill., is one of the representative men of Winnebago County. He was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, August 28, 1832, a son of Joseph and Sally (Mathews) Kinney, the former born at Boston, Mass., in 1793, and the latter in the guard house at Wooster, Ohio, in 1797, while her mother was sheltered in the blockaded refuge for protection against the Indians. Joseph Kinney walked the entire distance from Boston to Wooster, Ohio, in 1812. He followed farming in Ohio, and lived in both Trumbull and Ashtabula counties, dying in the latter, December 2, 1850, being accidentally killed by a falling tree while he and his son, William M., were cutting down trees. His wife died September 1, 1860.

On October 7, 1852, William M. Kinney was married to Barbara Huff, and September 20, 1854, they, with their son, Allison W., left Ohio with a team, joining a party of seven teams, and for four weeks were on the road to Elgin, Ill. There Mr. Kinney and his family left the party to join his brother at Portage, where they remained a year, working land on shares. The next move was made to Avon, Wis., and on April 16, 1856, he came to Laona Township, Winnebago County, and for the following nine years rented land. On the way from Wisconsin Mr. Kinney lost a satchel containing clothing belonging to his wife and \$60 in money, but was fortunate enough to recover it later on. In the fall of 1865 he went to Iowa with the idea of buying land, but not liking the country, returned to Laona Township and purchased forty acres of land at \$16 per acre on which he paid \$23 down which amount he realized from the sale of a sow. Later he bought twenty acres for \$25 per acre, and still later invested in sixty acres more for \$25 per acre. He had a log house and log stable on his first land, but all the buildings now standing, as well as other improvements, have been built by him. He lived on his farm until March 2,

1901, when he retired and went to the village of Durand which has continued his home. His land is now worth over \$115 per acre, which is a considerable advance upon the purchase price. When he first went to Laona Township the county was quite wild and the land covered with stumps and brush. There was not a house in the present village of Durand, and he drew the lumber for the first one built there, from Sugar River to Durand, and also the first load of wheat brought to the market, after the railroad was built.

On July 23, 1888, Mr. Kinney lost his first wife, who was the mother of six children, as follows: Allison W., who died August 29, 1913; Thankful Margaret, who was born in 1856, and died October 15, 1865; Mary Rosetta, who is the wife of J. A. Swale of Laona Township; Delmont L., who is of Laona Township; Bert E., who lives on the old homestead; and Roy L., who is of Laona Township. On March 10, 1889, Mr. Kinney married (second) Mrs. Jane (Rice) Bullis, who lived in Wilbur, Neb., but who came to Laona Township with her sister in 1844.

Politically, Mr. Kinney is independent, although for many years he was a Republican. He served Laona Township as commissioner of highways for seven years, school director for nineteen years, and was elected a justice of the peace but did not qualify. He is a stockholder in the Citizens State Bank of Durand, and a very substantial man in every respect.

KNAPP, Rev. Jacob, for many years was a beloved minister of the gospel and will long be remembered by the people of Rockford. He was born in Otsego County, N. Y., where he attended school, later attending the University of Madison, at Hamilton, N. Y., from which he was graduated, having paid his own way through the institution. He resided with the dean of the university, and did chores in return for his room and board. In his early days he endured many hardships.

Early feeling the call to a religious life, he became an evangelist, and traveled from coast to coast, and it is related that he traveled on foot 300 miles with his luggage on his back. On one of his visits to San Francisco, Cal., he bought 20,000 acres of land for \$1 per acre, and later, while attending to the details of the transaction, sold the property for \$2 per acre, so it is easily seen he was an excellent business man as well as minister of the gospel. At the same time he made \$800 by exchanging the gold he had brought to pay for the land, for greenbacks possessed by other parties seeking to buy land.

Prior to making the memorable trip to San Francisco, Mr. Knapp was married to Miss Electa Payne, a daughter of Captain Payne, who was a gallant officer of the War of 1812. She died in 1883, aged seventy-four years. In 1846 Mr. Knapp came to Winnebago County, and secured 4,000 acres of land in Owen and Burr-itt Townships, buying soldiers' warrants for seventy-five cents per acre. Later on he sold

some of this land, but reserved enough to give his children valuable farms.

At his death he left \$10,000 to Madison College and \$10,000 to home missions, and had a continual life membership free for all his male descendants.

After a life of usefulness, devoted largely to the ministry of the Baptist Church, Mr. Knapp died, in 1873, aged seventy-four years. The old-time traveling evangelist has passed with changed times but the good he accomplished can never be estimated. Mr. Knapp was one of the most eloquent of his kind and could sway great crowds, and led thousands to repentance. To the last he took a great interest in his work, and was always held in the highest esteem.

KNIGHT, Bradford A. The legal profession is one that brings forth all that is most efficient in a man and develops his faculties and increases his knowledge of men and affairs. No attorney can hope to succeed who is not well educated and does not possess certain well known qualities, but if he does have these requisites, and a fair amount of industry, he can in this calling climb higher than in any other. One of the leading exponents of the legal fraternity of Winnebago County, is Bradford A. Knight, of Rockford, with office at No. 121 N. Church street, and residence at No. 206 Franklin Place. He was born in Ogle County, Ill., May 29, 1856, a son of Joshua A. and Achsah J. (Davis) Knight.

The father of Bradford A. Knight was a farmer who came to Ogle County, Illinois, from Jefferson County, New York, in 1852, and settled on a farm near Rochelle, Ogle County, Ill., where the father and mother continued to reside throughout their whole lifetime. The father died on the home farm in 1883 and the mother in 1913.

Bradford A. Knight attended the public schools of his home town and later the seminary of Mt. Morris, Illinois, and then matriculating in the law department of the University of Michigan, took the usual law course there and was graduated in that department in 1885.

In September, 1884, Mr. Knight was married at White Rock, Ogle County, Illinois, to Kate F. Oakes, to whom eight children were born, three of whom, however, died in infancy. The five living children are as follows: William D., who is in the law business with his father; Arthur J., who is soon to be connected with his father in the law business; Katharine, Alice G. and Dorothy M., all of whom are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Knight sent their eldest son William D. through an eight year course in the graded schools of Rockford, four year course in the Rockford High School, a four year course at Dartmouth College, and a three year law course at Harvard University. Arthur J. graduated in the same grade schools and High School at Rockford, and also took a four year course at Dartmouth College, and later graduated from the law department of Kent College, Chicago. The oldest daughter, Katharine Knight, took the

same course in Rockford schools as did her brothers and in the year 1916 graduated from the Northwestern University at Evanston. The daughters, Alice G. and Dorothy M. are being educated in like manner, it being the parents' intention to furnish each of them with a college education. They, respectively, are an intelligent family of young people and their progress is a source of much pleasure and pride to their parents.

Mr. Knight is independent in his political views. He is a member of the Court Street Methodist Church of Rockford, Illinois. In his law practice Mr. Knight is one of the most active practitioners at the Winnebago County bar, he having tried numerous cases in Winnebago County Circuit Court and, also, in the adjoining counties. Mr. Knight tried the first tax title case won in the South Dakota Supreme Court. This case affected the title of property in South Dakota aggregating millions of dollars. In tax title cases Mr. Knight tried several cases in the Supreme Court of South Dakota. He has also tried and won several important cases in the Supreme Court of Illinois. He has the distinction of receiving the largest attorney fee ever paid to date to any attorney of Winnebago County. The case was a complicated one involving an ante-nuptial contract, and in which case his fee was upwards of \$40,000. Mr. Knight has the largest private law library in northern Illinois, consisting of upwards of three thousand volumes.

Mr. Knight's activities have not been limited to his law practice, for, in addition thereto, he has been unusually active in business matters. He was the promoter, and, at the present time is an one-half owner and president of the Rockford Sand & Gravel Company, a prosperous concern of Rockford, Illinois. He organized and promoted the Skandia Furniture Company, the Rockford Desk and Furniture Company, the Climax Slide and Table Company, the West End Street Railway Company and the West End Furniture Company, all corporations of Rockford, Ill. In addition to this, Mr. Knight has been very active in handling investments in real estate. He platted and later sold lands now in and about the City of Rockford, aggregating upwards of one thousand acres. He promoted and placed on the market that part of Rockford known as "West End," comprising 500 acres; also B. A. Knight's Subdivision known as "Knightsville," comprising forty acres; also B. A. Knight's Subdivision of the Waxham farm, comprising 110 acres; also B. A. Knight's Subdivision of the Cutler farm, comprising 230 acres; Rockford Sand and Gravel Company Subdivision, comprising 90 acres; Rockford Sand and Gravel Company Second Subdivision, comprising 16 acres; B. A. Knight's Subdivision of the Davey farm, comprising 85 acres; B. A. Knight's North Main Street Subdivision and B. A. Knight's South Church Street Subdivision.

Mr. Knight has one of the finest residences in the City of Rockford, valued at \$25,000. He is also owner of his own office building, worth up-

wards of \$20,000. Mr. Knight has accumulated property which at the present time is estimated to be worth upwards of \$250,000. A man of broad vision, he has been able to spread his activities and as his character is forceful and his ability is commanding, he dominates every situation with which he is connected.

KNIGHT, Bradley J., attorney-at-law, with residence at No. 437 Hinkley avenue, Rockford, is one of the leading representatives of the legal profession of Winnebago County, and a man who has won distinction, although still a young man. He was born at Rochelle, Ill., August 17, 1887, a son of Bradley Jay and Mary Adeline Knight, the father being a farmer and stockman, who was born in Ogle County, Ill. His people came from Herkimer County, N. Y., at an early day, and located in Ogle County, Ill. The Knight family had been founded in New York state in 1740. The mother's family was founded in Vermont in 1762 and she was a direct descendant of Capt. John House, who served in the Revolutionary war. When Mrs. Knight was two years old, her parents moved from Vermont to Wisconsin, where she was reared and educated.

Bradley Jay Knight was reared at and near Rochelle, and after studying in the public schools of that city, matriculated at the University of Illinois. He took up the study of law at Rochelle in the office of Delos W. Baxter, and was admitted to the bar June 10, 1910. On July 1 of the same year he established himself at Rockford, and since that time has been engaged in the active practice of his profession, having been connected with some of the most important jurisprudence of the county. Mr. Knight gave his country the benefit of his services for a time as a member of Company H, I. N. G., of Rockford, from which he was honorably discharged in 1914. He is a stalwart Republican, and is at present a candidate for the office of state's attorney for Winnebago County, with the intention of coming before the people at the fall primaries of 1916, on the Republican ticket. Mr. Knight owns a modest number of real estate holdings in and near Rockford, and platted the Knight and Stacy's subdivision to the city of Rockford, and procured electric lights for all sections around the subdivision, as well as in it. Rockford Lodge No. 166, A. F. & A. M., Forest City No. 590, O. E. S., the White Shrine of Jerusalem, and the order of Elks, all hold his membership and receive his enthusiastic support.

On August 14, 1913, Mr. Knight was married at Vancouver, Wash., to Grace Ella King, born March 1, 1888, a daughter of John Ellsworth King, and a granddaughter of William Henry King, founder of the village of King's Station, Ill. Mrs. Knight is a graduate of the Western College for Women of Oxford, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Knight are the parents of two children, Jane Emeline and Elizabeth Ann. The Presbyterian Church holds his membership, and he is connected with the First Presbyterian Church

of Rockford. Democratic in his tastes, Mr. Knight is a good mixer, and a man universally liked, while he is highly respected for his ability and knowledge of law.

KNOWLTON, Homer W., cashier of the Peca-tonica Bank, who has held that important office since 1873, was born at Freeport, Ill., April 9, 1839, a son of Dexter A. and Eveline (Arnold) Knowlton, both of whom were natives of Herkimer County, N. Y. The paternal grandfather was David Knowlton and he was born May 7, 1783, and in 1804, he married Achsah Barnes, and removed to Stockton Township, Chautauqua County, N. Y. about 1813. He followed farming and shoemaking, and became an active factor in local affairs. The Baptist church at Old Town Line held his membership and he was one of its deacons. This church was organized in 1814, and later was known as the First Baptist Church of Stockton. They had seven children as follows: Sophronia, who was born March 5, 1806, married Isaac Andrews, May 29, 1823, removed to Rockford, Ill., in 1848, and died here June 10, 1888; Achsah, who was born March 23, 1809, died in childhood; Dexter A., who was born March 3, 1812; Betsey A., who was born March 3, 1820, married Lewis Morgon and died November 16, 1882; Dyer, who was born May 11, 1822, died in childhood; William Alfred, who was born August 4, 1831, was married January 21, 1857, to Matilda Hitchcock, and died at Rockford in 1892.

When Dexter A. Knowlton was a year old his parents moved to Chautauqua County, N. Y., and there he lived until 1839, in which year he moved to Freeport, Ill., and there embarked in a general merchandise business. He was instrumental in securing the building of the old Galena & Chicago Railroad running out of Chicago, that is now a part of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad system, and in 1855 was one of its directors. He returned to Westfield, N. Y., and after six years there, moved to Saratoga, N. Y., where he purchased the Empire Spring, and organized the Congress and Empire Spring Company. At the same time he continued his connection with the banking house of D. A. Knowlton & Sons, which he had founded at Freeport in 1869, until his death, March 10, 1876. In religious faith he was a Presbyterian, and in politics he was one of the early advocates of abolition of slavery, and was one of the first candidates of the Anti-Slavery party for governor. His wife, a native of Herkimer County, N. Y., went with her parents to Chautauqua County, N. Y., when seventeen or eighteen years old, and the marriage between her and Mr. Knowlton was celebrated at what was known as Town Line, between Jamestown and Fredonia, N. Y. They had the following children: Arminda, who was born December 29, 1834, died May 10, 1891; Dexter U., who was born July 28, 1836, died in 1840; Eveline A., who was born August 17, 1837, married Carlos Currier, and died June 30, 1914, in California; Homer W.; Dexter A., who was born August 25, 1843, married Mary L. Myers and lived at Freeport until

his death, October 19, 1903. Julian D., Charles D. and Ophelia A.

Dexter A. Knowlton was educated at Freeport, and was graduated with honors from Williams College in 1866. He became a member of the Phi Beta Kappa fraternity. His entire business career showed him to be a man of enterprise and public spirit. After the death of their father, he and his brothers continued the banking business established by him, changing the name to that of Knowlton Bros., and he was identified with this house until his death. For twenty-six years he was a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church, and was also a trustee of it and of Beloit College, Wis. He was also a member of the church board and connected with several colleges and academies. His family consisted of the following children: Florence, Maria, Mabel Clara; Mary L., who died June 16, 1883, and Jane and Dorothy. Charles D. Knowlton, who was born in Freeport, January 27, 1848, married Ida A. Mann and has three children: Edith, who is now living at Freeport; Charles D., Jr., who recently went to North Dakota to establish a bank, and Kenneth. He was a member of the firm of D. A. Knowlton & Sons, is one of the sound business men of his section, and has contributed to the prosperity of his community. Ophelia A. Knowlton, the youngest member of the family of Dexter A. and Emeline (Arnold) Knowlton, was born January 30, 1852, and died in infancy. It was while Mr. and Mrs. Dexter A. Knowlton were making a pleasure trip through the South that Mr. Knowlton died, at New Orleans, being found lifeless on the steps of a public building in that city. During the stirring times preceding and during the Civil war he stood fearlessly for what he believed was right.

Homer W. Knowlton acquired his early education in the public schools and an academy of New York state, and he also attended Bryant & Stratton's Business College at Buffalo, N. Y. In 1858 he entered the employ of the J. H. Manny Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of reapers, at Rockford, Ill., and traveled for that house, making collections for it for about a year. His uncle, William A. Knowlton, was in full charge of the business and the estate, the founder then being deceased. Later, Homer W. Knowlton secured a position in the Westfield Bank, at Westfield, N. Y., now the First National Bank, and in 1861 he went to Saratoga where he entered the employ of his father, who at that time was the owner of the Empire Spring Company. For four or five years Homer W. Knowlton continued with his father, and then began traveling for the American Insurance Company of Chicago, making collections for it until 1873, when he came to Pecatonica, Ill., and has since been engaged in the banking business established by his father and brothers. He has continued to be its cashier, and the success of the institution is largely attributable to his efforts.

Homer W. Knowlton has been twice married, first in May, 1862, to Kate Alton who was born in Dunkirk, N. Y., December 3, 1844, and died

July 4, 1897. Her parents were Luther and Mary Ann (Weaver) Alton, also natives of the Empire state. On April 20, 1903, Mr. Knowlton was married (second) to Marsha J. Langtry, a daughter of Dr. William and Jane (Hill) Langtry, born at Westville, Franklin County, N. Y. In local affairs, Mr. Knowlton has been active and influential. He has served as president of the town board, but has never sought public honors, preferring to contribute to the progress of his community in other ways than as an official. His political support is given to the Republican party. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church.

KOPPEN, Fred, a prosperous farmer and land-owner of Seward Township, is one of the enterprising agriculturalists of Winnebago County. He was born at Berlin, Germany, February 22, 1882, a son of John and Anna (Fibrie) Koppen, the former born December 4, 1855. These parents came to the United States in 1883, and located in Pecatonica, where the father died in 1907, and the mother in 1902. They had two children, Fred, a sister, now Mrs. Verona Last, of Seward Township.

Fred Koppen was but a baby when his parents came to Winnebago County, so he has lived here practically all his life, and received his educational training in its public schools. After leaving school he began to farm, and has been so engaged ever since. For the past fourteen years he has lived on his present farm, known as the G. T. Peterson property, which is located two miles east of Seward. He owns a half interest in 160 acres on section 27 in Seward Township.

In 1904 Mr. Koppen was married to a young lady born in Winnebago County, December 11, 1886. Her father was born in Germany and there educated. After he had served his time as a soldier in the German army, he came to the United States and devoted himself to farming until his death. The mother is also deceased. Mrs. Koppen is the only survivor of her family. In religious matters, Mr. Koppen is a Congregationalist. His political belief makes him a Republican and he supports the candidates of his party faithfully and well.

KOSTKA, Frank J., foreman of the finishing department of the Schumann Piano Company of Rockford, with residence at No. 2202 Wallace street, is a highly skilled workman whose efficiency has been produced by years of experience. He was born in Germany, February 26, 1869, and was brought to the United States by his parents in 1881. He attended school in his native land and later a German school in Chicago, and also a night school in that city.

Mr. Kostka went to work first with Schaff & Schmidt, with whom he remained five years, there learning the finishing trade. From that firm he went with the Gerts Piano Company, and remained with that concern after it became Bush & Gerts, his continuous connection extending over six years. His next place of employment was with Decker Bros., of New York City, but after two years there he returned to Bush

& Gerts, Chicago, and remained with them for three years, when he entered the employ of Reed & Son, Dixon, Ill. After one year at Dixon, Mr. Kostka returned to Chicago and was with Mr. Schaff until 1901, in which year he became connected with the Schumann Piano Company as assistant foreman, a short time thereafter being made foreman of the finishing department, which position he still holds.

Mr. Kostka was married to Catherine Linicka, and their living children are: Walter, Adolph, Lillian, Francis and Hattie. One child died in infancy. Mr. Kostka is a member of the Germania Society, and of the order of Eagles. St. Mary's Catholic Church holds his religious membership. He owns city property and is a substantial and reliable man.

KRAKER, Peter, foreman of the finishing department of the Illinois School Furniture Company, and shipping clerk, for the entire concern, with residence at No. 1402 Twentieth street, Rockford, is one of the substantial and reliable men of this city, one who is recognized as a desirable addition to the community. He was born in the Netherlands, May 1, 1867, and in 1872 his parents, who were farming people, came to the United States, and located at Grand Rapids, Mich.

Peter Kraker grew up at Grand Rapids, attending its public schools, and there began working in furniture factories, during the last three years of his service being foreman of the finishing department. In 1895 he came to Rockford but in 1896 returned to Michigan and spent two years at Muskegon. In 1898 he came back to Rockford, and has since made this city his home, although he maintains a partnership with his brother in a meat market at Grand Rapids, Mich. When the Illinois School Furniture Company was organized, Mr. Kraker was offered his present position and has since held it to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. He owns stock in the company, and is in comfortable circumstances.

In 1896 Mr. Kraker was married at Rockford, to Hilda Hook, of this city. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and is popular in that order, as he is with his associates in other connections. He has been clerk of the school board in his district for the last nine years and in 1916 was re-elected without opposition for a term of three years.

KRYGHR, James C., president of the Rockford Illustrating Company, at No. 130 N. First street, with residence at No. 110 Sheridan place, is a man who had sounded a new note in commercial illustrating, and occupies a field peculiarly his own. He was born at Grand Rapids, Mich., May 31, 1883, a son of Cornelius and Elizabeth (Class) Kryghr. The father was born in the Netherlands, and the mother at Grand Rapids, Mich., and both were most worthy people. Many years ago the father came to Grand Rapids, Mich., where for thirty years he was engaged in a wholesale grocery business, but then retired,

and is now enjoying the leisure his years of endeavor have provided for him. The mother also survives.

James C. Kryghr was reared in his native city, and there given educational opportunities. Developing decided artistic tastes, he attended the Chicago Art Institute, from which he was graduated, following which he was employed by different firms as an artist for three years. For some years thereafter he was associated with the Franklin Engraving Company of Chicago. Mr. Kryghr then went to New York City to become an artist for the Beck Engraving Company, but was later transferred to their Philadelphia plant where he remained for five years. In 1907 he formed desirable connections with the Rockford Illustrating Company, and in 1910 was made its president. This concern is the largest of its kind outside of Chicago, in the state, and controls an immense business, much of which has been developed by Mr. Kryghr. Socially inclined Mr. Kryghr belongs to the Country Club, and he is also an Elk.

KUHARSKE, Edward A., whose agricultural operations embrace both farming and dairying, is one of the substantial men and reliable citizens of Guilford Township. He was born at Green Lake, Wis., December 25, 1880, a son of George and Moby (Friday) Kuharske, who were born in German Poland and Germany, respectively. They were married in Wisconsin, where the father died after having been a farmer all his life. The mother survives.

When he was fifteen years old, Edward A. Kuharske began earning his own living by trapping and fishing, and he later worked in the lumber regions of Wisconsin. When he was twenty-two years old, he embarked in a machine shop business, but finding his lack of education a drawback, he studied with the Scranton Correspondence School to fit himself as a locomotive engineer, and also took up architecture. Following this he was fireman for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad until 1906, when he came to Winnebago County and took charge of a farm three miles northeast of Rockford. In addition to this farm of eighty acres, Mr. Kuharske owns 120 acres and rents an additional 132 and one-half acre farm. When he bought his first farm he began at once to put in improvements and enrich the impoverished soil. His specialty is dairy farming, and he has a fine herd of Holstein cattle, and conducts a milk route, delivering sixty-two and one-half gallons per day. To feed his stock he raises grain and hay, and also breeds Norman horses. His entire equipment is in the best of shape for he is an excellent type of the modern, progressive agriculturalist who makes efficiency his watchword.

On February 15, 1904, Mr. Kuharske was married to Edith Cleveland, born at Chicago, a daughter of Charles B. and Theodocia (Garrison) Cleveland, natives of New York State. Mr. and Mrs. Kuharske are the parents of the following children: Edward, Charles, Milton Theodocia and Cleveland. Mr. Kuharske is a

member of the Court Street Methodist Church. In politics he is a Democrat, but he has not sought office. A hardworking man, he has won all he possesses through his own efforts, and deservedly stands high with his neighbors.

KULLBERG, Carl David, foreman of the action department of the east plant of the Haddorff Piano Company, with residence at No. 121 Paris avenue, is illustrating in his everyday work the value of skill and ability. He was born at Malmo, Sweden, April 27, 1886, and was brought to the United States when fifteen months old by his parents who located at Chicago. He was educated in that city and Rockford, and taught to be a cabinetmaker. His first work was with the Standard Furniture Company of Rockford, but after a year he entered the employ of the Haddorff Piano Company, and remained with this concern from 1902 to 1905, when he went with the Schumann Piano Company. A year later, however, he returned to the Haddorff Piano Company, and remained until 1907. In that year he left and for six weeks was in a grocery store. He once more engaged with the Schumann Piano Company, and in 1908 returned to the Haddorff Piano Company, working in the artistic finishing department, until he was made a foreman in 1914. Mr. Kullberg is unmarried and lives with his father, his mother being deceased. A consistent member of the Baptist Church, he endeavors to carry into his everyday life the creed he professes, and is a very excellent young man.

LAKE, John, page 647.

LAKE, Thomas, page 644.

LANE, E. T. S., whose connection with several of the leading business houses of Rockford, gives them added strength, is vice president and director of the Community Savings Company, and a director of the Sanitary Products Company, with residence at Nos. 114-116 S. First street. He was born at St. Paul, Minn., December 19, 1882. After attending the public schools of his native place, he went to a military academy in Georgia. For some years he was engaged in newspaper work, in all the states in the Union, and in China, Japan, the Philippines and Hawaii and Australia. While in the Philippines he was a first lieutenant in the Philippine Scouts, and assistant press correspondent. In recent years he has been engaged in the advertising business and is associated with Walter R. and Milton H. Trigg, and Edwin J. Thompson. His broad experience, extensive traveling and thorough knowledge of conditions in all parts of the world are a valuable asset, and he knows how to make the best use of it.

Mr. Lane was married in California to Della A. Hutchinson of Chicago, and they have a son,—Howard H. He belongs to the Pacific Coast Advertising Agency and the San Francisco Press Club, and has friends all over the globe.

LANE, Robert P., page 706.

LANGE, Fred C., manager of the Coppins & Lange Flour & Feed Company, at Nos. 602 to 614 Cedar street, has assisted in developing one of the largest enterprises in this line at Rockford, and is a man whose value as a citizen is equal to his worth as a business factor. He was born at Elkhorn, Wis., September 21, 1880, a son of John and Frederika (Krikow) Lange, natives of Germany. The father was brought from Germany in childhood by his parents, who located at Chicago and there lived for a number of years. There John Lange married, and after the death of his father, with his wife and widowed mother moved to Elkhorn, Wis. He was a carpenter by trade, and executed a number of important contracts at Chicago and in Wisconsin, where he lived until 1890, when he came to Rockford, and went into the same business, but later retired and is now living at No. 415 Forest avenue. Both he and his wife are members of the Trinity Lutheran Church. In politics the father is a Republican.

Fred C. Lange was ten years old when brought to Rockford, and later he assisted his father in his business. In 1909 Mr. Lange and Mr. Coppins bought the present concern of E. M. Breckenridge, and on August 1, 1913, incorporated the business, buying out the interests of his partner, although his name is retained. A complete line of flour, feed and similar commodities is carried, and a branch at No. 936 W. State is maintained, there being a grain elevator in connection with this last named establishment.

In 1905 Mr. Lange was married to Miss Minnie Weidman, a daughter of Henry and Catherine (Wagner) Weidman, and they have one child, Catherine Louise. Mr. and Mrs. Weidman are natives of Germany, and the former came to the United States in young manhood, and was married in New York state. He was a carpenter at Fort Atkinson, Wis., and from there moved to Rockford, where he followed his trade until his death in October, 1911. Mrs. Weidman survives and lives at No. 701 Woodlawn avenue. In politics Mr. Weidman was a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Lange reside in their beautiful, modern home at No. 1002 Rockton avenue, where they dispense a pleasing hospitality to their numerous friends.

LANSING, A. C. There are a number of the substantial men of Rockford who have resided in this city for over forty years, and have therefore witnessed and assisted in bringing about many remarkable changes. One of these representative men is A. C. Lansing, a retired merchant, who was born at East Line, Saratoga County, N. Y., January 12, 1840, a son of Cornelius and Lydia (Reed) Lansing, both of whom were born in New York State. The paternal grandfather was an extensive farmer in New York State, and died in Montgomery County. Cornelius Lansing was also an agriculturalist, and took charge of his father's estate upon the latter's death, and died upon the property in

1870, aged seventy-one years. His wife died at the age of eighty-four years.

A. C. Lansing spent his boyhood in New York State where he attended school, and began his days of self supporting effort by assisting his father in the farm work, so continuing until 1870, when he came to Rockford, Ill., where, in partnership with a Mr. Wiswoll, he embarked in a flour business. Mr. Wiswoll dying soon afterward, Mr. Lansing took over the business and conducted it very successfully for eighteen years, when he sold and embarked in a grocery business on East State street, and conducted it for seven years. He then retired and now lives at his beautiful home at No. 1517 East State street. Mr. Lansing is a consistent member of the Centennial Methodist Church of Rockford. In politics he is a Republican, but has not cared for public life.

In 1866 Mr. Lansing was married to Miss Sarah Elizabeth File, a daughter of Joshua and Mary Ann File, and they became the parents of one son, George Lansing, who died at Rockford when eleven years old. Joshua File was born in New York State, as was his wife, and they were there married, but came to Rockford, Ill., in the early days. After a year spent in this city, they bought a large tract of land at Monroe Center, Ogle County, Ill., which Mr. File operated until his death. The mother of Mrs. Lansing also died on this farm. Mr. File was a Republican. In religious faith he was a Methodist.

LARSON, Alfred G. Not only is Alfred G. Larson one of the leading contractors of Rockford, but he has also held some of the most important offices of the city and township, and in each relation of life proven his solid worth and admirable citizenship. He was born in Westergotland, Sweden, September 5, 1857, where he was educated. There he learned the stone mason trade in the thorough manner of his country, but upon coming to the United States at the age of twenty-one years, he worked for three years on a farm for his father who had preceded him. In the fall of 1882 he came to Rockford, and was associated with various contractors, among them being the late George Wilson, until in 1885 he established himself as a general contractor, although he specializes on mason work. In the interval which has followed, Mr. Larson has developed one of the finest business connections in the county in his line, and has executed and holds some of the most important contracts of this locality. A man of more than ordinary public spirit, he has taken an intelligent interest in politics and for two years served his township as supervisor and for two years was the alderman from his ward. Mayor Johnson appointed him a member of the Rockford Library Board, and he held this position for two years. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and for eight years he was a member of the Rockford Order of Elks.

Mr. Larson has been a member of the board

of directors and executive committee of Scandia Life Insurance Company of Chicago, since its organization. In religious matters he has been a member of the First Lutheran Church since January, 1883.

In 1883 Mr. Larson was married to Selma J. Peterson, who came with her brother to America from Sweden in the spring of 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Larson became the parents of five children as follows: Arthur, who died at the age of five years; Victoria, who died at the age of two and one-half years, and Laura, Florence and Lawrence, who are at home.

LARSON, Anton, superintendent of the Rockford Cabinet Company, stands unusually high among his associates, and is a man of action and excellent business judgment. He was born in Sweden, May 31, 1885, and there received his preliminary education, but after coming to Rockford he attended night school for a time and also the Rockford School of Engraving. For nearly two years he worked at Stockholm, prior to leaving Sweden for the United States, which he did in 1902, and after his arrival in this country, he came direct to Rockford. Here he found employment in a lumber yard, and later went into the mill connected with it and there worked for two years. For a summer Mr. Larson was then on a farm in Winnebago County, and then went to the Pacific coast, where he was engaged in lumbering. After a year he returned to Rockford and entered the employ of his present company as a machine operator, in 1907. Ambitious, he studied and learned all he could of the business and in 1912 he was made superintendent and continues to hold that responsible position, being one of the most valued employes of the company.

In 1908 Mr. Larson was married to Anna Gustavson, born at Rockford, and they have a daughter, Gladys V. Mr. Larson belongs to the Knights of Pythias. The South Park Salem Lutheran Church holds his membership. In politics he is independent. The Larson family reside at No. 1631 Seventeenth avenue, which Mr. Larson owns as well as other city property, and he is in very comfortable circumstances.

LARSON, Edward, foreman of the back department of the Haddorff Piano Company, with residence at No. 1324 Sixteenth avenue, is one of the skilled young workmen of this large concern, and one who deserves the promotion to which he has attained. He was born in Sweden, August 28, 1885. After completing his school days he worked on a farm until he came to the United States in 1905. His objective point after his arrival in this country was Rockford, and after reaching this city he worked in Chair Factory 13 a short time, when he entered the employ of the Haddorff Piano Company. In the fall of 1907 he went to the state of Washington and was in the coal mines there for two years, but returned to Rockford and again entered the employ of the Haddorff Piano Company. For some months he was in the side-gluing department,

and then entered his present department, of which he was made foreman January 21, 1913. His skill and ability to handle his men prove that he is the right man for the right place. Mr. Larson is unmarried.

LARSON, George A., sales manager of the Rockford Cabinet Company, with residence at No. 419 N. Fourth street, is a man who daily demonstrates his ability to correctly gauge human nature, and through his capable hands pass many accounts averaging large sales for his company. He was born at Rockford, June 2, 1891, and attended the public schools of the city and Brown's Business College. His first business experience was with the Rockford Tool Company as bookkeeper, and he later was manager of the Rockford Transfer Company, which position he held for three years. In February, 1915, his keen judgment and grasp of business affairs received proper recognition in his appointment to his present position. The responsibilities of his position are heavy as he has charge of the sales of his company in its every department, and is one of the youngest men to be called upon to assume such duties in the city. From the beginning of his business career, however, Mr. Larson showed unusual capacity for commercial work, and his progress justifies the confidence placed in him by his present employers who hold him in the highest esteem. Mr. Larson is unmarried and lives with his parents. He belongs to the First Lutheran Church of Rockford.

LARSON, Gust, superintendent of the Rockford Bookcase Company, and also a stockholder in the company and in knitting works in Sweden resides at No. 210 Seventh street, Rockford, where he enjoys an enviable standing among his neighbors. He was born in Sweden, and there attended the public schools, completing his educational training in the Rockford High school, and the Rockford Engineering School, which he attended after coming to the United States in 1900. Prior to coming here, he had worked for farmers, but after his arrival, he engaged with the Rockford Cabinet Company and was with that concern for four years. Leaving it he went to California, and for two years was employed in a sawmill on the coast, and then returned to Rockford where he re-engaged with his old company and continued with it until 1907 when he went back to Sweden to visit his parents. Upon his return to Rockford, he engaged with the Rockford Bookcase Company, and in 1913 his services received just recognition when he was made superintendent of the company. He has charge of the entire plant working force, and is very efficient in managing his men and turning out work.

Mr. Larson is unmarried. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. His political beliefs make him independent in his voting. For years he has attended the Swedish Church. A man of force of character, he impresses others with his capability and is able to impart to them some of his own industry.

LATHAM, Henry A. One of the most prominent families of Winnebago County, and particularly of Owen Township, is that bearing the name of Latham, and one who set the high standard which now characterizes its members was the late Henry Latham, veteran of the Civil war, and an honored pioneer of this section of Illinois. So thoroughly did he identify himself with local matters that the section in which his homestead was located was known as Latham, and when the Chicago, Milwaukee Railroad was built through the Latham homestead, the station established by the railroad at that point properly received the name of Latham Park, thus perpetuating the name of Latham to succeeding generations.

Henry Latham was born in New York state, in November, 1842, a son of Francis and Maria (Zimmer) Latham, he a native of Connecticut, and she of New York state. In 1855 they came to Owen Township, Winnebago County, Ill., and bought a farm in Owen Township upon which they lived for many years. They died upon another farm in the same township. Their children were as follows: Henry A.; Sarah, who is Mrs. Hatch, of Stillman Valley, Ill.; and Abby and Emma, both of whom are deceased.

Growing up on his father's farm, Henry A. Latham attended the schools in his district, and was taught such lessons of patriotism at home that loyalty to country became a part of his life, and thus he felt it obligatory upon him to enlist for service during the Civil war, entering the Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He re-enlisted later on in the United States naval service, and still later he re-enlisted in the United States cavalry, and was one of the very few men of the country who served in all three branches of the regular service. At the close of the conflict, he received his third honorable discharge, and returned to peaceful occupations. Like many of the young heroes of the Civil war, Mr. Latham was married not long after his return home, and for the following couple of years he lived with his parents on the home farm. He then moved to a farm he owned in Benton County, Mo., but after three years sold his interests and returned to the homestead, conducting it for his parents until their death. After the settlement of the estate by which he inherited a portion of the homestead, he bought the interest of the other heirs, and conducted the farm very successfully to within a few months prior to his death. In the spring of 1895 he sold this property. His death occurred July 16, 1895.

On November 21, 1865, Mr. Latham was married to Elizabeth Rice, born at Westfield, N. Y., a daughter of John and Lavina (Martin) Rice, he born in Oneida County, N. Y., and she at Westfield, N. Y. In 1855 the Rice family came to Cherry Valley Township, this county, and located on a farm, but later went to Plymouth, Wis., where the parents died. Mrs. Latham was a little girl when she was brought to Winnebago County, and has witnessed many wonderful developments since that time. Rail-

roads have been built, the telephone has been invented and installed; automobiles have come into general use; flying machines have been proven practicable, and all these inventions and many others have been developed since she was a girl. Rockford, now a beautiful city, was but a straggling village when she first saw it, and not even the most sanguine of its promoters visioned the present prosperity. After going to Wisconsin she had some very interesting experiences as a pioneer teacher in a new county. Mr. and Mrs. Latham became the parents of the following children: May, Francis and Berrie, who are all deceased; and Elwilda, who lives with her mother. When Mr. Latham died, Mrs. Latham moved to Rockford, and for nine years resided on Woodlawn avenue, but then purchased a house on Blaisdell street. Mr. Latham was a Republican. During his long residence in Owen Township he served in several township offices. His fraternal affiliations were with the Modern Woodmen of America, and he also belonged to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. He served in the state militia and in the Rockford Rifles. However, he was essentially a home man, taking his pleasure with his family. His principles were high, his sense of devotion to his country was remarkably strong, and did not cease with the close of his military career, but continued with him during his life, so that he could always be counted upon to give a generous and effective support to those measures which in his judgment would best serve the country and community he loved.

LATHROP, Hon. William, for many years one of Rockford's most distinguished men, was born in Genesee County, N. Y., April 25, 1825. During 1850 he was admitted to the bar in New York, and in January of the following year he came to Rockford, and immediately took his place among the men who count in this city. He was its first city clerk, being chosen in 1852, and at the second session of the city council of Rockford, held May 1, 1853, he was appointed city attorney. From 1853 to 1857 he was a law partner of James L. Loop, one of the ablest lawyers of Winnebago County, but in the meanwhile public duties claimed him, for in 1856 Mr. Lathrop was elected a member of the state assembly, and served one term. Other honors awaited him, for in 1876 he succeeded Stephen A. Hurlbut as a member of Congress from the Fourth District, and served from 1877 to 1879.

In spite of the honors and emoluments of these offices, he always was rather the lawyer than the politician, and during his long residence at Rockford he enjoyed a large and lucrative practice, serving as counsel for many of the large manufacturing firms of the city, and probably had personal charge of the settlement of more estates than any other attorney in the city. He owned one of the finest law libraries at Rockford and was always a close student.

Mr. Lathrop was married to Adeline Potter, a daughter of E. H. Potter, and their children were as follows: Mrs. Anna Case; Julia; Ed-

ward P. and Robert, attorneys who were associated with their father, have offices at No. 114 N. Church street; and William, who is a banker of Plankinton, S. D. For many years Mr. Lathrop resided at No. 408 Rockton avenue. His death resulted from an accident, as he was run down by a horse and carriage at the Fair Grounds Park, November 17, 1907, while taking a walk. His collar bone and several ribs were broken, and he died of his injuries November 19, 1907.

A man of real distinction, Mr. Lathrop always took a prominent part in public matters, being one of the founders of the Republican party in Winnebago County, and when the Kansas-Nebraska bill was passed by Congress in 1854, he was one of the forty-six representative citizens who signed the call for a mass meeting of the old First Congregational District, which was held on August 8. The purpose of the meeting was to demand a more stubborn resistance to the encroachments of slavery. Among other things Mr. Lathrop enjoyed the distinction of being Winnebago's only representative in Congress. He was for many years a trustee of Rockford College. Largely through his efforts was the Fair Grounds Park secured for the city of Rockford, and it is a sad fact that it was in the park his philanthropy had gained, he met with the injuries that caused his death. This park, however, will stand as a monument to his memory, and in it the people of Rockford find healthy relaxation.

Miss Julia C. Lathrop, daughter of Mr. Lathrop, has been identified with public affairs and has attained to signal honors. She served many years as a member of the State Board of Charities, and in this connection was associated with Miss Jane Addams of Hull House, Chicago. Early in 1912, President Taft appointed Miss Lathrop to the newly created office of chief of the Children's Bureau, at Washington, she being the first woman to receive appointment to the head of a government office. (See page 705.)

LAWLER, Hon. Thomas G. Were all his other good deeds forgotten, Thomas G. Lawler would live in the hearts of the people of Winnebago County because of the fact that it was he who had inaugurated the custom of having the American flag hoisted over every schoolhouse in the county. He was born at Liverpool, England, April 7, 1844, a son of Patrick Lawler who came to Rockford, Ill.

Thomas G. Lawler was but a lad when he arrived at Rockford, which continued to be his home until his death. When the Civil war burst upon the country, Mr. Lawler was one of those who responded to the call of the Union, and enlisted in Company E, Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving in this regiment until he was mustered out. He was in a number of important engagements in the Western army, and was placed on the roll of honor by Gen. Rosecrans, a distinction only awarded those who had shown unusual personal bravery and soldierly conduct. Among other engagements he

was in the battles of Stone River, Perryville, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, and was through the Atlanta campaign and on to the sea. Although his clothing was many times pierced by bullets, he was only slightly wounded. The military impulse towards loyalty and service continued with him all his later years, and he was drill master for the first militia company organized at Rockford, and he was made colonel of the Third Regiment Illinois Infantry. Mr. Lawler was always the idol of his soldiers and the ideal of his fellow citizens.

On December 24, 1866, Mr. Lawler was married to Fannie A. Rodd, born in Ontario, Canada, a daughter of Joseph and Mary A. (Clement) Rodd, natives of England. Mr. Lawler was one of the organizers of G. L. Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R., and was elected its commander thirty-nine times, and in 1894 was elected national commander, serving with distinction throughout his term. He was the first national commander to visit the southern states, and his example has been followed since that time by his successors. Under Republican administrations from that of President Hayes until his death, February 3, 1908, Mr. Lawler was postmaster of Rockford. He caused the flag to be hoisted over every schoolhouse in Winnebago County, and was present at the installation services of each. The Centennial Methodist Church of Rockford held his membership and he was one of its first trustees and superintendent of the Sunday school for a time. A Thirty-second degree Mason, Mr. Lawler held the supreme office in every degree of the order. His widow still resides in the elegant Lawler home at Rockford. (See pages 330, 819.)

LAWSON, Aaron, who for a number of years was closely associated with the decorating business at Rockford, is remembered by his old associates as one of the substantial and representative men of the county. He was born at Rockford, July 7, 1862, a son of Jonas Lawson. The parents of Aaron Lawson were born in Sweden, the father leaving there in early manhood for the United States. He located at Rockford, and being a highly educated man his services were at once secured as a teacher. Later he went to Sterling, Ill., where he taught school for a short time, and then returned to Rockford. He was one of the founders of the Swedish Lutheran Church of this city, and passed away firm in its faith, at his home on South Fourth street, when he was fifty-eight years old. The mother died at Sterling, Ill.

Aaron Lawson was educated in the public schools of Rockford and early displaying talent took a course at the Chicago Art School of Decorating, being graduated therefrom. He then returned to Rockford where he developed into a contractor of painting and decorating. For some years prior to embarking in business for himself, he was associated with a Mr. Charlson. After continuing alone for some time, he sold his business and went to work for the Harper Decorating Co. In 1915, with his son,

Stanley A. Lawson, he opened a place of business on South Third street, which is one of the finest stores of its kind on the East side. The firm did the decorating at the "Imperial," and in many fine residences. The heavy strain incidental to the new business ventures proved too much for him, however, and he died May 7, 1915, when only fifty-three years old.

In 1885 Mr. Lawson was married to Miss Emma Folk, a daughter of Frank and Christina Folk, she being of Swedish birth. Mr. and Mrs. Lawson became the parents of the following children: Hazel, who married W. L. Kinney of Rockford; Stanley A.; and Marion E., all of whom, with the widow, survive. Mr. Lawson was a Republican, but held no offices. When he was only twenty-three years old he did the fresco work and decorating on the First Lutheran Church of Rockford which has stood the test of time for twenty years. Later on he did the interior decorating and curtain of the Opera House, and was an artist of recognized ability and highest standing. Since the death of his father, Stanley A. has and will continue the business started by his father.

LAWSON, Hannes, founder of the Lawson Express and Transfer line, with offices at No. 716 Sixth street, is one of the enterprising business men of Rockford who has risen to responsibility through his own efforts. He was born in Scholerbren, Sweden, January 5, 1860, a son of Andrew and Caroline Lawson, both of whom were born in the same place as their son. They came to the United States in 1862, locating in East Rockford, where the father entered the employ of the Thompson Manufacturing Company. Later, with a Mr. Lindall, he was in an elevator business, and remained in that line until his death in 1866, at the age of fifty years. The mother died when seventy-seven years old. They belonged to the First Lutheran Church of Rockford.

Hannes Lawson was reared at Rockford and here received his educational training. His practical experience began in the employ of Lawson & Walburgh in their stone quarry, where he was a deliveryman and collector for five years. He then had charge of the teaming for the Excelsior Furniture Company, controlling it until this concern was wiped out by fire. Mr. Lawson was with B. H. Murphy for a short time in an undertaking business, and he then founded his present business. He first lived on Rural street, then moved to Longwood street, thence to Benton street, and back to Longwood street. He then went to Fifth avenue, and in 1888 moved to his present address at No. 716 Sixth street.

In 1879 Mr. Lawson was married to Miss Alexandra Elizabeth Hedlong, a daughter of Andrew Hedlong. Her parents were natives of Sweden who came to the United States at an early date, and located at Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Lawson have had the following children: William R., Ernest, Walter, Mabel, Frank, Nellie, Hazel, Harold J., Ethel, and Edith. Mr.

Lawson is a Modern Woodman, and a charter member of the P. K. and the S. S. S. Society. He belongs to the Chamber of Commerce. In politics he is a Republican. In his business Mr. Lawson is fully prepared to take care of all business entrusted to him, having two auto trucks and four teams. At one time he had an agency for pianos with warerooms in the Lumber building, but in 1908 sold to S. L. Larson.

LEACH, Stephen, page 658.

LETTS, Sherman B., senior member of the well known and reliable firm of Letts & Bennett of No. 125 W. State street, Rockford, is one of the substantial men of Winnebago County. He was born in Scott Township, Ogle County, Ill., April 12, 1873, a son of William and Frances (Bartlett) Letts, natives of New York State. Mr. Letts came to Illinois with his parents in the early fifties, and they located on a farm in Scott Township, Ogle County. Later they moved to Rockford. When William Letts was married, he moved on the home farm in Ogle County, but in the spring of 1882, he went to Mason City, Iowa, where he purchased a large farm and where he is at present residing. There were three children in the family as follows: Charles B., who lives at Mason City, Iowa; Herman B. and his twin brother, Sherman B.

Sherman B. Letts was educated in the public schools of Mason City. In 1891 when eighteen years old he came to Rockford, and entered Johnson & Winan's Business College, completing his commercial course in the spring of 1892, following which he went to Chicago and engaged with the Remington Typewriter Company, with which he remained until the spring of 1895. Returning to Mason City, he spent the summer there recovering his health, and then entered Olivet College at Olivet, Mich., but on account of failing health was compelled to leave during the ensuing winter, and then came to Rockford. In the following spring he went to work for C. E. Jackson's portrait studio, and was on the road for him during the next two years. In the summer of 1898 Mr. Letts engaged with Mead Bros., furniture dealers, as salesman, but left them in 1901, and went with F. D. Goddard, furniture dealer, with whom he remained until August, 1906. In August of that year, Mr. Letts purchased a half interest in the real estate and loan business of A. C. Horton, located at No. 125 W. State street, which was then conducted under the name of Horton & Letts. Owing to illness in 1913, Mr. Horton was compelled to retire, and in November, 1913, Mr. Letts bought out his interest, and continued the business. He is very aggressive and is successful in handling realty. The firm was one of the most successful in Rockford, and handled between half and three quarters of a million dollars worth of property annually. On March 1, 1915, George M. Bennett entered into partnership with Mr. Letts, and the firm is now Letts & Bennett. A full account of the work of the new firm is given elsewhere in this work.

Mr. Letts has demonstrated his faith in Rockford by his personal investments, and his judgment has been justified by the increase in values, so that he is now a very wealthy man. In the fall of 1914 he purchased a handsome brick residence at the corner of Ridge avenue and John street, where he now makes his home. Although it was a new house, he has fitted it up to suit his own taste, and it is conceded to be one of the most beautiful residences of Rockford. His excellent taste and artistic conceptions were given full play in this home, and the results are delightfully pleasing. For the past twenty years Mr. Letts has been a member of the First Congregational Church and always one of its most liberal supporters, showing an active interest in its affairs. Not only is he one of the trustees of the church, but he also takes part in the Sunday school work. Politically he is a Republican.

On April 15, 1897, Mr. Letts was married to Helen L. Cotton, born at Rockford, in September, 1869, a daughter of Charles and Emma C. Cotton. Mrs. Letts died in May, 1911, leaving three children, namely: Harriet C., who was born May 31, 1903; Wendell B., who was born November 14, 1906; and Kathryn L., who was born July 23, 1910. On February 15, 1912, Mr. Letts was married (second) to Winifred M. Sherman, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Lawrence, who reside with Mr. and Mrs. Letts. Mrs. Letts was born September 19, 1875, at Fort Atkinson, Wis. She was married (first) to Robert Sherman, by whom she has a son, Charles Lawrence S. Mr. and Mrs. Letts have a son, Philip W., who was born May 13, 1913. Mr. Letts is one of the men who has helped to make Rockford what it is today, and he is held in the highest esteem by many who have excellent reasons for their confidence in his business judgment.

LEVI, Samuel E., one of the largest market gardeners and florists of Winnebago County, is conveniently located in South Rockford. He was born in Delaware County, Ind., June 14, 1860, eighth child in a family of eleven children, born to James and Ellen (Hardie) Levi, natives of Scotland, where the father was born July 2, 1822, and the mother April 16, 1823. They were married in Scotland, June 23, 1844, and came to Canada, and four years later, to Indiana, where they lived for sixteen years. They then went to Iowa, where the father died December 25, 1906, the mother having passed away November 2, 1904.

Samuel E. Levi attended only the country schools of Indiana, but travel and experience were excellent teachers. When he was nineteen years old he went to work by the month on a farm in Iowa. As soon as he was able, he rented eighty acres of land in Mills County, Iowa, for a year, and then went to Carroll County, Iowa, where he continued renting land for three years, proceeding then to Nebraska, and after spending two years in Wayne County, returning to Carroll County, Iowa, where he remained for three

years. His next change was to Snohomish County, Wash., and from there he went to Buckley, Kings County, Wash., and worked in the shingle mills there, and also did some farming. Once more he returned to Carroll County, Iowa. His wife had died and he desired to place his children with his parents. He then traveled about considerably, principally in Indiana. In 1901 he came to Rockford and worked in the Emerson Agricultural plant for a year, and then was engaged in carpenter work for eighteen months. In 1903 Mr. Levi moved on seven acres of land in South Rockford. At that time he erected the first greenhouse and now has 12,500 feet of glass in his greenhouses and raises plants and vegetables. He cultivates the remainder of his land as a market garden, and has also platted part of his land in city lots.

Mr. Levi was married (first) in January, 1883, at Council Bluffs, Iowa, to Sadie Rock. She was born in Delaware County, Ind., in December, 1859. Their children were as follows: Edwin, who was born September 20, 1884, lives at Belvidere, Ill., married (first) Maud Clark who died in a short time, and he married (second) Clara Manthey and they have a daughter, Ellen, born March 7, 1916; Lorena, who was born January 12, 1890, lives at home. Arnold, who was born November 6, 1894, lives at Belvidere, Ill., and Eva, who was born November 12, 1896, is at home. Mrs. Levi died June 14, 1897, at Buckley, Wash. On July 3, 1902, Mr. Levi married (second) Rose Hadsall, born in South Riley Township, McHenry County, Ill., February 25, 1868, a daughter of Edwin and Lydia (Dailey) Hadsall, he born in Luzerne County, Pa., March 4, 1814, a son of Amos Hadsall, and she born in the same county, February 27, 1823. In 1846 they drove overland with a team, bringing their three small children with them, to McHenry County, Ill., where they bought forty acres of land from the government, at \$1.25 per acre. Mr. Hadsall also homesteaded 160 acres of land, and was one of the earliest settlers in that section. Mr. and Mrs. Hadsall reared eleven children, Mrs. Levi being the tenth in order of birth. Mrs. Hadsall died September 8, 1877, while Mr. Hadsall died June 15, 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Levi have one daughter, Lydia Ellen, who was born September 10, 1903. They have an adopted son, Morris H., who was born October 30, 1912. Early in life Mr. Levi was a Presbyterian.

LEWIS, Fay, whose energies have been expended, and whose reputation has been widely established in the handling at wholesale of cigars, while his natural charitable disposition has led him into many philanthropic endeavors, was born at Rockford, March 28, 1857. He was the eldest of a family of five children, two sons and three daughters, born to Charles F. and Frances (Wheelock) Lewis who located at Rockford in 1850. The father was a pioneer of Rockford and a member of the firm of Vaughn & Lewis, general merchants, which was established in 1852.

Fay Lewis was still under twenty when he entered the employ of a cigar dealer at No. 314 W. State street in 1875, and he displayed so much activity and business ability as a clerk, that the year following, he was able to enlist sufficient capital to purchase the store, and thus laid the foundation for a subsequent business career that was marked by uninterrupted and deserved success. As his brothers, C. Herbert and Harry Lewis reached manhood, Fay Lewis took them into partnership, and they shared in the prosperity of the steadily extending trade at the original location. Later their success prepared them to embark in the wholesale trade in cigars and manufactured tobacco, and the wide extent of their operations made it desirable to turn the firm into an Illinois corporation, which was done under the name of Fay Lewis & Bros. Co., which is still continued. As years rolled on the company found it desirable to erect a new building with modern facilities for handling the ever-increasing volume of business, on the site of the original frame structure. Still later a branch office was established at Milwaukee, Wis., and in the fall of 1906, the principal offices and warerooms were removed to the Cream City, a branch office and ample stock being maintained at Rockford to supply the trade in this city and some fifty towns in the surrounding section. The Fay Lewis & Bros. Co. covers thoroughly by means of a staff of high class salesmen, the states of Wisconsin and Illinois, outside of Cook County, and is constantly enlarging its scope and improving its service. It now requires seven figures to express its annual volume of wholesale business, and the company also conducts a number of retail stores whose equipment and stock challenge the admiration of consumers of tobacco.

Fay Lewis has always found relaxation from business cares in humane and charitable work. He has been a student of sociology and penology and has contributed largely of his time and resources to countless movements for the betterment of social conditions. He has been an officer of the Winnebago County branch of the Illinois Humane Society since its organization, more than thirty years ago, and is treasurer of the Anti-Capital Punishment Society of America. In kindly service to those in need Mr. Lewis finds the one to him unfailing joy of life.

LIDDELL, Leslie J. After varied business experiences in other sections, Leslie J. Liddell located in Rockton Township this county where he has developed into one of the best agriculturalists in this section. He was born in Owen Township, March 19, 1881, a son of George and Maria (Bruster) Liddell, natives of Devonshire and Lancashire, England. They were married at Freeport, Ill. The father was an engineer on the Northwestern Railroad, but soon after his marriage, located in Owen Township, Winnebago County, where he farmed until he retired to Rockford in 1905, selling his farm to a son, and here he now resides at No. 610

Woodlawn avenue. The mother died July 5, 1912.

Leslie J. Liddell attended the public schools of his township and the Rockford Business College. He was one of the following family born to his parents: Brewster H., who resides at Rockford; Walter W., who resides at Rockton; Isabel, who is Mrs. Arthur McDougall of Burrit Township; Elizabeth, who is Mrs. William Nichols of Owen Township; George C., who resides in Owen Township; Leslie J.; and Roy H., who resides in Owen Township.

When he was nineteen years old Leslie J. Liddell began traveling for the purpose of building grain elevators in the northwest. Later he established himself in a livery business at Foxhome, Minn., but eight months later sold it and returned to Winnebago County, and farmed his father's homestead for five years. Then he went to Wyndmere, No. Dak., and was in a livery business there for two years, but sold, and came to the farm his mother owned in Rockton Township, consisting of 212 acres, on which he still resides, carrying on general farming and stock raising.

On October 12, 1906, Mr. Liddell was married to Mabel G. Kelley, born at Waterloo, Iowa, March 16, 1889, a daughter of James and Minnie (Nesbit) Kelley of the same place. Mr. and Mrs. Liddell have no children. In politics Mr. Liddell is a Democrat, but he has not cared for public office.

LIDDLE FAMILY, The. It is natural for people to have a desire to know something of the ancestors of pioneer families and from whence they came. George Liddle, one of the early settlers of Winnebago County, arrived in Rockford, Ill., August 27, 1851, when Rockford was a hamlet. His father was born at Allen's Head, County Durham, England, April 6, 1788. In 1820 he emigrated to North America, locating in Quebec and Ontario provinces, Canada, and returned to his native land in 1825. The following year he was united in marriage to Jane Clay of Bishop Auckland, County Durham, England. He rented Whole-house farm twenty-five years, at Walsingham, County Durham. They reared twelve children. On April 21, 1851, he once more turned to the new world and set sail on the *Forest City*, arriving in New York City June 4 of the same year, joining Thomas and Matthew, who had come the year before, at Gen. Wadworth's place, Geneseo, N. Y., where they remained until the autumn. Matthew, being a civil engineer, took charge of a large force of men and drained the low lands of the meadows of the great farm that extended seventeen miles. In the autumn of 1851 the whole family came west to Rockford, before there was a railroad. As there was no bridge they forded the Indian's "Rocky Ford," whence came the name Rockford. During the summer of 1852 the Chicago, Rockford, Freeport and Galena Railroad was built as far west as East Rockford. Upon its completion the elder George went into the draying business, having the record

of being Rockford's first drayman. In 1854 he bought a farm one mile north of Latham Park, where he died October 6, 1855. Jane Clay Liddle, his wife, died at Owen, January 8, 1874.

Of the twelve children, eight were boys, and all became locomotive engineers. Thomas Liddle was born April 6, 1827, and railroaded until his father's death, having the distinction of driving the first locomotive across Rock River, over the new bridge at Rockford, on an early April morning in 1853. He subsequently bought a farm in Owen Township, and there he was united in marriage to Minerva Chapman, April 6, 1862. Their children were as follows: Jed, Ada and Arden. Thomas died on his farm May 17, 1904. John and Mary Liddle, twins, were born October 31, 1828. John married Mary Sharp at Ironton, Ohio, and to them were born twelve children. He was a veteran railroad engineer, having run thirty-nine years when he was killed in a wreck, November 17, 1878. His twin sister, Mary, died September 3, 1829.

Matthew Liddle was born June 30, 1830, and received a college education in England. There was a law there at that time that when a man had seven sons, any one of them could have a free college education, and Matthew was given the advantage of this opportunity. Matthew and Thomas were the forerunners of the Liddle family to America, sailing one year before, in April, 1849, on the ship *Corsica*. They suffered shipwreck off the coast of New Foundland at Cape Ray, the ship being dashed to pieces on the rocks. The survivors were rescued by fishermen, and they afterward took passage to New York City, and thence to Geneseo, where the family joined them the following year. In the spring of 1854 Matthew was employed to do some work for President James K. Polk, surveying a race and erecting a flour mill at Polktown. After one year with the Polks he was taken sick, and died October 20, 1855, and was buried in the President's private lot there, where his remains still repose.

Hannah and Margaret Liddle, twins, were born October 12, 1831. Hannah married Robert Minns, a veteran railroad man, and to them were born five children. She died at Sharp's Creek, Kans., February 3, 1902. Margaret married Joseph Mueller and died at Freeport, Ill., December 4, 1855. George Liddle was born September 1, 1833. William Liddle was born February 14, 1835. He was married to Hannah Melton, and they had nine children. William was a pioneer railroad man and subsequently he purchased a farm at Latham Park, Owen Township, Winnebago County. He retired from the farm and purchased a home in Rockton, where he resided until his death, which occurred May 18, 1916. Jane Liddle was born June 30, 1856. She was married to Robert Minns, and died March 27, 1854. Joseph Liddle was born November 9, 1840, and was a soldier in the Civil war, enlisting May 24, 1861, in Company C, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered out May 25, 1864. In 1866 he crossed overland to California, later became a cattleman in Nevada, and there he died May 18,

1886. He was united in marriage to Maggie Dison at Fulton, Ill. To this union were born six children. Joseph was once sheriff of White Pine County, Nev. Mary Ann Liddle was born May 15, 1838. She was united in marriage to Hamilton H. Broadie, November 11, 1861, a veteran engineer. He was a thirty-second degree Mason. He and his wife had one son, J. E. Broadie, Rockford's veteran groceryman. Mrs. Broadie died at Rockford January 3, 1911.

Samuel Liddle was born March 4, 1843. At the age of eighteen years he enlisted for service in the Civil war, in the First Artillery, Battery E, at Chicago, Ill., August 13, 1862. As a veteran he re-enlisted in the First Light Artillery, May 19, 1865, and was mustered out June 2, 1865. He was made lieutenant for meritorious action on the field of battle. He went overland to the western gold fields in 1866. Samuel was married to Lizzie A. Knight and to them were born three children. He served the territory of Nevada as county commissioner for two terms; county treasurer two terms; territorial representative two terms; as a civil engineer, professor of chemistry and metallurgy, and for eighteen years was superintendent of large mining concerns, engineering many other mining enterprises, and was made mayor of Hamilton in its prosperous days. His death occurred at San Francisco, July 5, 1889.

James Liddle, the youngest, was born May 20, 1846. He learned the machinist trade in the Northwestern Railroad shops at Rockford. At the age of twenty years he joined his brothers Joseph and Samuel, in their trip to Montana, Nevada and California, making up the caravan at Omaha, Neb. On the plains the Indians were troublesome, the party being attacked many times. James displayed a wonderful strategy in Indian warfare, and distinguished himself as a leader against the Indians. These three brothers went into the cattle business on a large scale, and employed many cowboys to look after their herds. When the Indians stole and stampeded the cattle at any location, they had to be rounded up and punished. On many occasions James was selected as the leader for this work. In 1876 when General Custer was killed in Montana, the commanding officer of the U. S. troops in Montana sought William Cody and James Liddle, and they joined the regular army and both were commissioned colonels, and fought the Indians for two years on the Little Big Horn and Yellowstone rivers, until the savages begged for peace. He served as sheriff of White Pine County, Nevada. James married Maria Edwards. He subsequently bought a large ranch at El Paso, where he lived a retired life and died July 3, 1907.

In the spring of 1852 the business life of George Liddle began as a fireman with the Chicago, Rockford, Freeport and Galena Railroad, when the road had reached East Rockford. In the spring of 1853 the bridge was completed, and he was the fireman during the famous midnight crossing of Rock River with the first locomotive that was taken across the rippling rock. Two

years later he was made engineer. Mr. Liddle has the distinction of being the only living man that crossed on the first locomotive over Rock River. Until 1864 he was a locomotive driver, and during that time he handled the following engines, all of which burned wood: Black Hawk, Kehota, Waubansie Cloud, Ariel, Johnny Bull, Pioneer, Chicago, Maringo, Elgin Rockford, Pecatonica, Winnebago, Nevada, Freeport. Mr. Liddle ran the first train over the Beloit branch of the Northwestern Railroad. In the spring of 1864 he retired from the road and took up farming in the township of Owen. On October 23, 1861, he was united in marriage with Maria Brewster, at Freeport, Ill. To this union were born twelve children, five of whom died in infancy. Those who survive are: Brewster H., of Rockton Township; Walter W., who lives at Rockton, married Rachel Gleasman, and they have four children; Isabelle M. (Liddle) McDougall, who has eight children; May E. (Liddle) Nicholls, who lives in Owen Township, has four children; George C., Jr., who married Ida Bondelid, has three children, and resides in Owen Township; Lesley J., who married Mabel Kelley, resides in Rockton Township; Roy H., who married Nora Bondelid, has two children, and resides in Owen Township. All the children are nicely located on farms. As time rolled on, the original farm was widened until it consisted of several tracts amounting to 500 acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Liddle retired from the farm to Woodlawn avenue, Rockford, in 1905. On July 5, 1911, Mrs. Liddle departed this life, and was laid to rest in Owen Center Cemetery. She was born September 21, 1842, at Tetney, Lincolnshire, England, and came to this country with her parents in 1854. Mr. Liddle and family are affiliated with the Republican party, and he cast his vote for John C. Fremont, first Republican candidate for president. In religious belief he was first connected with the Church of England, and later with the Methodist church. For sixty-five continuous years Mr. Liddle has lived in Winnebago County, and has seen Rockford grow from a hamlet to a metropolis, and points with civic pride to the beautiful city with its great factories and beautiful residences and parks. Surely this pioneer family, more than many others, has known of the privations and hardships of braving the dangers of the seas, fever and ague, crossing the plains, deserts and mountains and at the hands of bands of savage Indians.

Brewster H. Liddle has for many years been collecting data for the family tree and submits the family coat-of-arms, of British origin, given to Thomas de Liddle of County Durham, 1642, for gallantry and defense of Gen. Newcastle, by the king. He was created a baron and chief. The coat-of-arms is in colors on parchment or vellum. Brewster H. Liddle, who is the family historian, is getting together everything obtainable in this country and abroad, with the intention of issuing it in book form. The tribe now numbering thousands originated in the Cheviot hills, on the line dividing Scotland and England. The family, or tribe, is traced back to the reign of Edward the Confessor, from 1041 to 1066. With the conquer-

ing of England in 1066 by William of Normandy, came the introduction of the French tongue and the idea of surnames, as there were none until then in Britian. The original name Liddle was taken from the Syrian and Welsh root, *lyd*, assembly of musical water, and *dale*, or modern dell, so the river was named *Lyd-Dale* and later *Liddel*. The tribe that located there was named after the river, *Liddle*, *Liddel*, or *Liddell*, all of the same tribe. There are many peers in Britain today bearing the name. For sixteen years it has been a custom to have an annual reunion of the Liddle family in America at the various homes. Of this family society, George Liddle has been honored by election as president each year. The sixteenth reunion is to take place on September 1, 1916, on the eighty-third birthday of George Liddle. For one of the meetings Mrs. Isabelle Maria (Liddle) McDougal wrote a poem and dedicated it to the family.

"Back amongst the hills and bracken
Near the Liddel River and dale,
In the pleasant Isle of Britain
Sprang a race stalwart and hale.

"Sent they forth the strong forerunner
To a country half unknown;
Near the village of Rockford
They laid the new family cornerstone.

"Then the locomotive whistle
Called most of the boys away
From the old stone house in Owen,
And the girls seemed not to stay.

"In building up the country
They have taken honest part;
Sent their soldiers when the strife came
That tore in twain the nation's heart.

"There were new homes to be builded,
And the family scattered wide;
Some of roving disposition
Went with the great western tide.

"Now this family has grown in numbers,
And of late in unity, too;
Now we have this yearly meeting,
Throbs the kinship strong and true.

"Most the old group have passed the portal,
Numbered with the silent dead:
Age upon the rest advancing,
Yet there's never one gray head.

"There's a rosy tribe of infants,
More and more each turning year:
That the name of Liddel will moulder
No one need have smallest fear."

LIDDLE, Jay I., a prosperous farmer of section 24, Owen Township, Winnebago County, was born in this county on the farm of his father, William Liddle, December 11, 1871, and has always been one of the representative men of his locality. William Liddle was a native of Eng-

land, came to America in 1851, located at New York the first year and came to Rockford, Ill., in 1852. He was employed as a railroad engineer eight years.

His wife, Hannah (Milton) Liddle, was also born in Devonshire, England, in 1848, and came to America in 1852 with her parents who located in Ridott, Stephenson County, Ill., and lived there until she was married to William Liddle in 1867. They came to the farm which they now own, one mile north of Latham Park, in Owen Township, and lived on and operated this farm until 1900, when they retired to Rockton, where they are now residing. William Liddle is a Republican, and both he and wife belong to the Methodist Church.

Jay I. Liddle was reared in Owen Township, and there educated. His first work was done on his father's farm, but after his marriage he rented land for two years, at Owen Center, Winnebago County, Ill. He then moved on the farm owned by his mother-in-law in Rockton Township and spent a year, when he bought his present farm of 180 acres, and has developed into one of the most successful farmers of his township.

In 1898 Mr. Liddle was married to Miss Maude Webber, a daughter of Thomas and Keturah (Piper) Webber, and they became the parents of three children, namely: Wilmer I., Francis C., and Margrete E. who died in 1910, aged six weeks. Mr. Webber was born in Devonshire, England, but was brought to the United States early in life by his parents, who located south of Rockton, Ill., on what became the old Webber farm. He was educated in this neighborhood and when old enough engaged in farming, so continuing until he died in 1889, aged fifty-four years, being one of Rockton's well known men and a heavy feeder and dealer in cattle. The mother of Mrs. Liddle was brought from Devonshire, England, where she was also born, in 1869, and they located at Rockton, near what is known as Carpenter Bridge. The maternal grandparents conducted a farm until the grandfather's death in Burritt Township. The grandmother died in Rockton Township. Mr. and Mrs. Webber were married at Rockton, in 1871, and there Mrs. Webber died April 7, 1908.

LIDDLE, Walter W. It is almost entirely due to the efforts of the enterprising agriculturists of Winnebago County that this section has advanced so materially along those lines connected with farming, and one who has done his part to bring about present results is Walter W. Liddle of Rockton Township. He was born in Owen Township, February 28, 1867, a son of George and Maria (Bruster) Liddle, natives of Durham and Lincolnshire, England. They were married at Freeport, Ill. The father was an engineer on the Illinois Central Railroad, but left that occupation when he bought a farm in Owen Township. This property he farmed for forty years, and about 1907 moved to Rockton where he lives retired at No. 610 Woodlawn avenue. The mother died in 1912. The children of the parents

were as follows: B. H., who lives at Rockford; Walter W.; Belle, who is Mrs. A. P. Dugal of Burritt Township; Elizabeth, who is Mrs. William Nichols of Owen Township; George, Jr., who lives in Owen Township; Leslie, who resides in Rockton Township; and Roy, who lives in Owen Township.

Walter W. Liddle attended the schools in his district, and lived at home until 1894 when he went on one of his father's farms in Owen Township. In time he bought 210 acres of land, nearly all in the northern part of the village of Rockton. He remodeled all the buildings and made them thoroughly modern, and now has a valuable property. Mr. Liddle raises Duroc-Jersey hogs and percheron horses, all registered stock, and carries on general farming.

On February 14, 1894, Mr. Liddle was married to Pattie Gleason, born in Owen Township, a daughter of George and Sarah (Lake) Gleason, natives of Utica, N. Y. and Owen Township, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Liddle have the following children: Wayne, Lyle, Florence and Arlene. The family are Methodists. Mr. Liddle served as trustee of the village of Rockton for ten years, has been a cemetery trustee since 1911, a library trustee since 1912, assessor of Rockton Township since 1914, and in politics is a Republican and active in his party. Fraternally he belongs to Rockton Lodge No. 74, A. F. & A. M., Rockton Chapter No. 190, R. A. M.; Rockford Camp No. 64, B. P. O. E.; Rockton Camp, M. W. A., and Riverdale Grange, being master of the latter. Mrs. Liddle belongs to the Eastern Star, and she and Mr. Liddle stand very high socially in Rockton.

LIDDLE, William. Some of the men of Winnebago County have divided their time between the soil and working in various lines that have called forth energies not utilized in agricultural employment, and of them one is William Liddle of Rockton. He was born in Durham County, England, February 14, 1835, a son of George and Jane (Clay) Liddle, who in the spring of 1851 came from Livingston County, N. Y. to Rockford, Ill., and bought land in Winnebago County and township, where they died.

William Liddle lived with his parents as long as they were alive. He engaged with the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad in its construction work, later going into its machine shop at Rockford. He became a fireman and then one of the first engineers of the road, working as such for eighteen years. He then bought a farm, and after his parents' death, he with three brothers conducted the homestead for a time, when he bought them out, in 1866, and became sole owner of the 160 acres, to which he later added eighty acres so that he operated 240 acres. He continued on the farm until 1900 when he retired and moved to Rockton, which continues to be his home, but still owns 240 acres of land.

On December 4, 1867, Mr. Liddle married Anna M. Milton, born in Lincolnshire, England, September 29, 1848, a daughter of William B. and Mary Ann (Wilmer) Milton, who came to

Rockford in 1853. Mr. Milton there entered the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad's employ. Mr. and Mrs. Liddle became the parents of the following children: Frank G., who died at the age of twenty-six years; Charles W., who lives in Rockton Township; Jay D., who resides in Owen Township; Cora M., who is Mrs. Bruce Clark of Burdett, Alberta, Canada; Alice H., who is Mrs. John Griffith of Rockton Township; Mary Jane, who is deceased; Arthur M., who died at Burdett, Canada; and Ethel, who lives with her parents. Mr. Liddle is a very well informed man for he not only attended school in England and in this country, but he has kept up with the times and takes an intelligent interest in local affairs, being in politics a Republican. He served as school director and road commissioner in Winnebago Township. The Methodist church holds his membership and benefits by his generosity.

LIND, Charles A., one of the prominent men of Rockford who comes of Swedish birth, and one who has honorably earned the confidence reposed in him, was born in the southern part of Sweden, in Kroneberg Province, January 30, 1846, a son of H. Olson and Mary (Christopher-son) Lind.

On June 7, 1871, Charles A. Lind came to Rockford. As he had been a farmer in his native land, at first Mr. Lind engaged in farm work upon coming to Winnebago County, but soon became one of the organizers of the Union Furniture Company, which was established in 1876, and of it Mr. Lind was the cabinetmaker for a few years, having had some experience in Lander's planing mill on the water power for five years. For seven years he served the Union Furniture Company as shipping clerk, but in 1889 the plant was burned. In the meanwhile, in 1882, the Rockford Chair & Furniture Company was organized, Mr. Lind being one of those interested, and when the plant of his original company was destroyed, Mr. Lind became a cabinetmaker for the new one and later became its shipping clerk, continuing to hold the latter position until 1909, when he retired. In 1880 he was one of the organizers of the Scandia Plow Company, and was a director of it for years, and was on the directorate of the other two companies he assisted in establishing. He was treasurer of the Union Furniture Company from 1880 to 1888. He retains stock in the Rockford Chair & Furniture Company and the Rockford Machine Tool Company, which he also helped to organize, and also in the Union Furniture Company. He is also a stockholder in other Rockford concerns, his association with them giving them added stability. In 1891 Mr. Lind built a fine modern residence at No. 511 N. Second street, and has lived in the same block since coming to Rockford. In addition to his home, Mr. Lind owns other city property, and he is a stockholder of the Third National Bank.

On May 24, 1878, Mr. Lind was married to Miss Carolina S. Peterson, born in Sweden, Oster Gotland Province, September 23, 1856, a

daughter of John Peterson, of Pecatonica, Ill., and their children are as follows: Jennie Fredricka, Alma Wilhemina, Henry J., George Reuben, Cora May and Julia Mabel. Mr. Lind belongs to the First Lutheran Church of Rockford. In politics he is a Republican. A man of unusual business ability, Mr. Lind has known how to develop his faculties and his standing is deservedly high among his fellow citizens, especially those who are of the same nationality as he.

LINDBERG, Edward, manager of the Leath Furniture Company, which is conveniently located opposite the courthouse, is one of the leading business men of Rockford, and deserves the prominence he has attained. He was born at Rockford, where he was reared and educated, attending both the grammar and high schools of the city. Upon leaving school, Mr. Lindberg went with the Skandia Furniture Company as salesman, so serving for seven years, then spent two years with the Leath's Furniture Company at Elgin, Ill. In 1915 Mr. Leath erected the block opposite the courthouse which is recognized as the finest furniture establishment at Rockford. When the store was completed, Mr. Lindberg was brought from the Elgin house to become its manager. Mr. Lindberg is a stockholder in the company. This company is operating stores at Elgin and Aurora, as well as at Rockford, and does an extensive mail order business, as well as handling a large local trade. Deliveries are made with auto trucks.

In 1913 Mr. Lindberg was married to Miss Edith Rolander, whose parents were born in Sweden but came to the United States in early life, and located at Princeton, Ill. Mr. Lindberg's father is employed at the Skandia Furniture Company as assistant superintendent. He lives in his beautiful residence at No. 1317 Charles street, Rockford.

LINDHE, John, manager and secretary of the Kishwaukee Street Grocery Company, at No. 630 Kishwaukee street, is one of the best examples of the live, progressive and capable business men of Rockford, where he is so profitably engaged. He was born in Westergotland, Sweden, April 19, 1858, a son of Andrew and Johanna (Johnson) Lindhe. The parents were also born in Westergotland, Sweden, and there they both died, the father in 1906, and the mother in 1908. The father engaged in mining and neither he nor the mother ever came to the United States.

After attending the public schools of his native place, John Lindhe learned the trade of a cabinetmaker and when twenty-three years old sailed for the United States and located at Rockford, Ill. Here he found employment first in a coffin factory, but after some time went to work for the Rockford Manufacturing Company and was with it from 1890 to 1899, when he embarked in a grocery business at his present location with Charles Stark, Mr. Bangstrom and John Glans as partners. The company owns and operates one of the finest grocery stores on the

East side of Rockford, and their trade is an extensive one and constantly increasing.

In 1885 Mr. Lindhe was married to Miss Junea Wickstrom, a daughter of Victor Wickstrom, who was of Swedish birth. Mr. and Mrs. Lindhe have one child, B. M. Lindhe, who is now a chiropractic doctor, at Madison, Wis. Mr. Lindhe is a member of Emanuel Lutheran Church, in which he has been deacon for twenty-seven years. In politics he is not a party man.

LINDSKOLD, Swan. Among the men who have won prominence in business and professional life at Rockford, Ill., a number are found to be of Swedish birth. In this class is Swan Lindskold, of 317 Seventh street, who is rapidly rising in legal circles and building up an excellent business in real estate. Mr. Lindskold was born in Sweden, January 24, 1878, the son of parents who are both now deceased and who never came to the United States.

Swan Lindskold was a youth of seventeen years when he immigrated to the United States, a poor youth, without capital or influential friends to help him over the rough spots. He located at Moline, Ill., where he secured employment in a rolling mill, but after one year went to Bureau County and secured work on a farm, where he remained three years. He was not content to work thus all his life, however, having realized the value of an education, and when he had saved \$175, through the strictest economy, he went to Kalamazoo, Mich., where he entered Kalamazoo College. While there he worked at whatever employment of an honorable character presented itself and was thus not only able to complete a course of four years, but also to earn the money with which to take an extended trip to Europe. Returning to the United States in 1904 he again entered Kalamazoo College, where he remained two years, and subsequently went to the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, being graduated therefrom in law in 1909. He went direct to Rockford, where he took the bar examination, and was admitted to practice October 14, 1909, at which time he opened his office. He has since enjoyed a constantly increasing practice and has been accounted one of the capable and learned attorneys of the city.

While his practice has received his attention primarily, Mr. Lindskold has also interested himself in other matters. In 1911 he was the organizer of the society known as the American Nobles, which, one year later, was consolidated with the Fraternal Union of America, with offices in Denver. In 1914 this society was consolidated with the Fraternal Aid Union, under which style it still continues, the local lodge being designated as Keystone Lodge No. 1140, of which Mr. Lindskold has been secretary and treasurer since its organization. He has further fraternal connection with the Woodmen of the World. He is engaged extensively in the handling of insurance and loans as well as building. He has shown his confidence in the future of Rockford and the community by

liberally investing his means in real estate and is particularly interested in Highland, which he firmly believes will become the most progressive part of East Rockford. This locality, as its name would indicate, is placed high and above the dust of the lower levels, and is rapidly becoming the place of residence of a number of the professional and business men of Rockford, who are building there, erecting modern and beautiful homes. Real estate in Highland is being improved as fast as the city is able to do it, and during the past two years a number of streets have been macadamized, including Highland, Gardner, and Paris avenues, and Washington, Pearl and Shaw streets, while London and Chicago avenues were commenced in the summer of 1915. It is expected that this will be the place of settlement for American citizens, although many of them will probably be of Swedish birth. Mr. Lindskold has contributed to the upbuilding of Rockford by the erection of a number of houses, and his own residence is located at No. 130 Highland avenue. He and his family are members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church.

On June 28, 1906, Mr. Lindskold was married to Miss Frances Martus, of Cass City, Mich., born October 23, 1881, and they have three children: Graydon M., born October 16, 1909; Neuman E., born July 24, 1911; and Mary Lorraine, born November 14, 1913.

LITTLEFIELD, Daniel Chapin. Although claimed by death many years ago, Daniel Chapin Littlefield is still remembered by those who had the honor of his acquaintance as a dignified man of kindly disposition whose delight it was to discover the good in humanity rather than the evil. He was of English descent, born at Essex, Vt., January 9, 1822, a son of Daniel and Miriam (Chapin) Littlefield, natives of Chesterfield and Springfield, Mass. The father, Daniel Littlefield, was born March 14, 1777, and the mother June 27, 1777. He died December 23, 1858, at Burlington, Vt., aged eighty-one years. The mother died July 1, 1849, aged seventy-two years. They were married February 9, 1802. The paternal grandfather, Daniel Littlefield, was born in November, 1732, and married Catherine Cole, and there were born to them ten children. Later in life they located at Chesterfield, Mass. The paternal great-grandfather was Deacon Daniel Littlefield, born at Chesterfield, Mass., April 4, 1712, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Rebecca, was born June 20, 1715. They were the parents of eleven children. Deacon Daniel Littlefield died in 1800, and his wife died in 1771.

The maternal grandfather, Elisha Chapin, was of the fifth generation and married Eunice Jones, February 16, 1764. The children were of the sixth generation, eight in number, Miriam, the sixth child, being the mother of Daniel Chapin Littlefield. The maternal great-grandfather was Elisha Chapin of the fourth generation. Born July 16, 1707, he had nine children, and was massacred by the Indians at Williamstown, Mass., July 11, 1756. He was commander at Fort

Massachusetts in 1754. The great-great-grandfather was Samuel Chapin of the third generation, born July 14, 1665, died October 19, 1729. He had ten children. The maternal great-great-grandfather, Japhet Chapin of the second generation was born in 1642, and died in 1675, having had seven children. The maternal great-great-great-grandfather was Samuel Chapin of the first generation, who was born in Springfield, Mass., in 1642. He had seven children.

The father of Daniel Chapin Littlefield, purchased a farm at Essex, Vt., and on it erected a plank house three years before his marriage. There he took his bride. After the birth of four children, he built another house in which he lived until six months before his death in Burlington, Vt., at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Amos Bliss.

Daniel Chapin Littlefield lived at the old homestead. On January 18, 1849, at Westford, Vt., he was married to Julia Ann Chase, a beautiful daughter of Truman Chase, who was born January 17, 1790, at Stratford, Vt., and of Laura (Ballard) Chase, born November 11, 1795, in Vermont. The paternal grandfather, Isaac Chase, was born at Sutton, now Milbury, Mass., September 12, 1761. He married Sarah Bond, born September 21, 1769, at Milburn, Mass. The great-grandfather, Abel Chase, was born September 11, 1732, at Milbury, Mass., married Judith Gale. The great-great-grandfather, Thomas Chase, was born September 15, 1680. The great-great-great-grandfather, Thomas Chase, was born July 25, 1654, at Newbury, Mass., and married Rebecca Follansbee. The great-great-great-great-grandfather, the American founder of the family, Aquilla Chase, came from Cornwall, England, where he was born in 1618, to Hampton, N. H., in 1640, and married Anne Wheeler, born at Hampton, N. H., a daughter of John Wheeler. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Chapin Littlefield became the parents of two daughters, namely: Miriam Florence and Rosamond Josephine.

In 1857 because of ill health Mr. Littlefield came west and located at Rockford, Ill. In 1858 his family joined him. He was a man of means and in April, 1861, purchased a fine residence on South First street, built in 1843, by the first mayor of Rockford, Willard Wheeler. There he lived until his death, January 13, 1884. His daughter, Miriam Florence, married Carlos Henry Blackman; and Rosamond Josephine married William Henry Fisher. Mr. Blackman died at Block Island, Mass., September 13, 1895. He was a son of Henry and Minerva (Lane) Blackman of Harvard, Ill. He was born in Jericho, Vt. Mr. and Mrs. Blackman had one daughter, Rae, who died in infancy.

William Henry Fisher, husband of Rosamond Josephine Littlefield, was born in Rockford, a son of Henry L. and Alma (Parkhurst) Fisher, formerly residents of Springfield, Mass., and Watertown, N. Y. His death occurred in London, England, April 21, 1893. There were no children. Mr. Fisher was a member of the firm of Holland, Gilruth and Fisher Abstract Company, at the time of his death. Mrs. Blackman

and Mrs. Fisher live at the Littlefield homestead. They belong to the various prominent Rockford clubs. Mrs. Blackman has traveled extensively, lived abroad for several years, and once circled the globe.

Mrs. Daniel Chapin Littlefield died May 27, 1914, aged within six weeks of ninety. The Register-Gazette of Rockford, under date of May 27, 1914, speaks of her as follows:

"Mrs. Julia A. Littlefield, a resident of Rockford for fifty-six years, and widow of Daniel Chapin Littlefield, died at five o'clock this morning at her home, 228 South First street. She had been in a decline for a year. Death was not due to any acute illness; the vital powers were simply exhausted, and she fell asleep as one who lies down to pleasant dreams.

"Mrs. Littlefield was nearly ninety years of age, and she had often of late expressed her desire to round out that period. To her was verified the promises, 'With long life will I satisfy thee,' and thou shalt 'bring forth fruit in old age.' Mrs. Littlefield was born July 6, 1824, at Westford, Vt. She was a daughter of Truman Chase, descendant of a long line of ministers and professional men, and Laura Ballard, of an old colonial family. Her girlhood was passed in Westford, and in Bakersfield, Vt., where she attended the once famous Bakersfield Seminary. The marriage of Daniel C. Littlefield and Julia Chase was solemnized January 8, 1849. Their early home was in Essex, where their two daughters were born.

"Mr. and Mrs. Littlefield came to Rockford in 1858, and in 1861 the husband purchased the home on the corner of South First and Oak streets, where their entire subsequent lives were spent. This Gothic residence is one of the landmarks of East Rockford, and was built in 1843 by Willard Wheeler, the first mayor of Rockford. Mrs. Littlefield was ardently devoted to her home. From there, her daughters went to found homes of their own, and when bereavement came to them, they returned to the old fireside, and ministered to their mother in her declining years with a lover's devotion. It has been the custom of the daughters, for several years, to observe the mother's birthday by inviting old neighbors to spend the afternoon, and these events became delightful memories.

"Mrs. Littlefield was a gentlewoman of the old school. Reared in a Christian home, its atmosphere was the tint that colored, and the blood that nurtured, an ideal womanhood. Religion was to her the most vital thing in life. If her faith was tested, it was triumphant, and at eventide it was light. Her life was gracious, and her memory will abide.

"The First Congregational Church was the religious home of Mrs. Littlefield. She loved its services, as did the prophet of old, who prayed with his window open toward Jerusalem. She made it a point to welcome strangers, and with a word of kindly greeting made them feel at home. Mrs. Littlefield was one of the early members of the historic old missionary society, whose diamond jubilee was celebrated a few weeks ago.

"Two daughters survive, both of whom were with the mother when she passed away: Mrs. Florence Blackman and Mrs. Rosamond Fisher."

LITTLEFIELD, L. A., secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Rockford Silver Plate Company, and a man of experience and capability who is advancing the interests of his company and proving his worth as a man, was born in South Weymouth, Mass., February 20, 1856, a son of Lemuel P. and Mercey (Cook) Littlefield, natives of Massachusetts.

L. A. Littlefield entered the employ of Reed & Barton, of Taunton, Mass., after he had completed school, and remained with this concern for seven years. He then was engaged by the Pierpont Manufacturing Company at New Bedford, Conn., for three years, and in 1884 established a business of his own at New Bedford, for manufacturing silverware. In 1901 this business was incorporated under the name of the Littlefield Silver Company, of which he was secretary and general manager, and so continued until 1908 when the business was bought by the Rockford Silver Plate Company, and he became its superintendent. Upon the death of Edward Taylor, the secretary of the company, Mr. Littlefield was made secretary and general manager, and he is also treasurer of the concern.

While living at New Bedford, Mr. Littlefield was married to Mary Gibbs, of Massachusetts. There are no children. Mr. Littlefield belongs to the Masons and Elks. He attends the Episcopal Church, and contributes liberally towards its support. A man of practical understanding of the requirements of his business, he is able to give its details intelligent attention, and his company benefits therefrom.

LODIN, Bengtron Aaron, a prosperous general farmer of Guilford Township, is one of the men who has materially assisted in developing the agricultural supremacy of Winnebago County. He was born in Sweden, October 29, 1854, and was there educated. On October 23, 1880, he landed in New York City, from whence he came as far west as Lilly Lake, Kane County, Ill., but only remained there a few months, leaving for Rockford. For the following two years he lived on Kishwaukee street, and then moved to Burritt Township and worked by the month until 1887. In that year he rented Needham's farm, and operated it until 1897 when he bought a house and lot, and kept adding to his land until he now owns thirty-one lots, and renting additional land, raising produce upon his property.

On June 28, 1878, Mr. Lodin was married in Sweden to Matilda Josephine Johnson, and their children are as follows: Laura J., who is Mrs. Frank Olson; George B., who lives in Guilford Township; Lillie A., who is Mrs. Albert Rosen of Rockford; Harry Albert, who lives at Chicago; David Arthur, who lives in Guilford Township; Jenuie Marion, who is Mrs. Roy Grant of No. 1112 Crosby street, Rockford; Alta F. J., who is Mrs. Chester Doane of Rockford;

Ernest Joseph, who died at the age of two years; and Fritz Joseph B., who is at home. Mr. Lodin belongs to the Lutheran Church situated at Fifth avenue and Sixth street. In politics he is a Republican. A hardworking and thrifty man he has never failed to make the best of his opportunities, and his success is well merited.

LOFGREN, Charles, mason contractor, and one of the most reliable men in his line in Rockford, is conveniently located at No. 1201 Fourth avenue. He was born in Ostergotland, Sweden, January 12, 1857, a son of John and Mary (Johnson) Lofgren, who were also born there. The father was engaged in farming all his life and also worked as a cabinetmaker. His death occurred in his native land in 1896, when he was sixty-nine years old. The mother died in 1899, aged seventy-six years. Her parents were farming people.

Charles Lofgren attended school in Ostergotland and there learned the carpenter trade. When he was twenty years old he came to the United States and located at Rockford. Here he assisted on the construction work from Kishwaukee street to South Rockford, of laying the track for the first street car line in the city. Later he went with the N. C. Thompson Manufacturing Company and remained with the concern for a number of years, leaving to go with John Linderot, with whom he learned the mason trade, and was with him for three years. For the next fourteen years he worked for John Palm, as a mason, and then embarked in business for himself in partnership with Mr. Nelson, this association having continued from 1898 to the present day.

In 1886 Mr. Lofgren married Miss Hannah Wallin, a daughter of August and Matilda (Carlson) Wallin, of Ostergotland, Sweden. Mr. Wallin was a miner in the copper mines of Atvidaberg, Sweden, and died in 1910, aged seventy-seven years. His wife died in 1907, aged seventy-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Lofgren have had three children, namely: Ernest G., who was born in 1887, died in 1910, aged twenty-three years; Egner C., who died in infancy; and Linnea P. In politics Mr. Lofgren is a Republican. He belongs to the Swedish Methodist Church. In 1892 he went to Sweden for a visit, returning in 1893 after an enjoyable voyage. He built a two-flat building and resides in one of the apartments, and owns considerable other property, being a man of means, but all he possesses he earned himself through his industry and thrift.

LOOP, James L., page 705.

LOTZ, Edward H., manager of the Rockford five and ten cent store of the F. W. Woolworth Company, at No. 116 S. Main street, Rockford, is one of the men who has made the operating of similar establishments a success throughout the country. It takes business judgment and tact of no usual type to successfully cope with the

problems present in the conduct of such a store, and that Mr. Lotz possesses these characteristics, his record proves. He was born at Buffalo, N. Y., October 3, 1887, a son of Reinhard and Minnia (Mann) Lotz, natives of New York state. The father was a painter and decorator, early in life, but later became confidential clerk for the Surrogate Court of Erie County, N. Y., and still holds this position.

Edward H. Lotz grew up at Buffalo, where he attended the public schools and a business college, and after leaving school was employed in a wholesale drug and grocery house for a number of years. In 1909 he went to Bloomington, Ill., to learn the methods of conducting profitably the five and ten cent business houses, with the S. H. Knox Company, with which he remained for three years. The firm name was then changed to that of the F. W. Woolworth Company, and Mr. Lotz was transferred to Chicago, where he took charge of one of the company's stores at Forty-seventh street and Ashland avenue. After a year he went to South Chicago, where he was manager of one of the company's stores for fifteen months, and was then sent to Kewanee, Ill., where, for eighteen months, he had charge of the company's store at that point. He then came to Rockford to become manager of the company's store at No. 116 S. Main street, where he has been for two years, and during that period has built up a very large and regular trade.

In 1911 Mr. Lotz was married to Miss Iva E. Tousey, a daughter of Orville and Flora A. Tousey of Buffalo, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Lotz have a daughter, Flora Elberta. The family residence is at No. 527 N. Main street. Mr. Lotz is a live, progressive business man who thoroughly understands his branch of commercial life, and through long and varied experience has been fitted for the position he now so capably fills.

LOVEJOY, A. J. Among the prominent representatives of the agricultural and livestock interests of Winnebago County is found A. J. Lovejoy, whose fine property is located in Harlem Township. He was born on his present farm, December 5, 1845, and is a son of Nathan J. and Harriet Eliza (Platt) Lovejoy. His parents were married at Tremont, Tazewell County, Ill., in 1844, the father having come from Sanbornton, N. H., in 1836, while the mother came from New York City.

A. J. Lovejoy received his education in the district schools of Harlem Township, and passed his boyhood on the home farm, on which he resided until he was twenty-one years of age. He then took a position with a wholesale house and sold goods for about twenty-five years, but finally returned to agricultural pursuits, buying the farm on which he was born. Here he has developed an excellent property, with fine improvements of the most modern character. Always a Republican, Mr. Lovejoy has at various times held important posts in public life. He was elected supervisor of Harlem Township

and served nine years and was then elected a member of the State Board of Agriculture of Illinois and served in various capacities for twelve years. He was general superintendent of the State Fair for ten years of this time, and was then elected to the Forty-eighth General Assembly on the Republican ticket. He has been a director of the International Livestock Exposition, at Chicago, for fifteen years and still holds his place on that board, and has served as president thereof. He is president of the Rockford Old Line Life Insurance Company, a position which he has held since the formation of the company. Mr. Lovejoy has held many minor offices. He was president of the Winnebago County Fair Association at one time, was secretary of that organization for a period, and president of the South Beloit Fair for five years, having always been connected more or less with work of this nature. His principal business, however, is the breeding of pure-bred livestock, a line in which he now has an international trade. He has been connected with many public enterprises. His fraternal affiliation is with the Masons and the Elks, and he is an attendant of the Methodist Episcopal church, although not a member. He has always been an advocate of temperance.

Mr. Lovejoy was married August 27, 1867, to Miss Eliza J. Wyman, of Roscoe, Ill., whose parents came to this state from New York in the '40s. They have one son, Wyman Nathan, born October 8, 1871.

LUNDAHL, Arthur, junior member of the well known and thoroughly reliable firm of Lagerstrom & Lundahl, owners of a billiard parlor and bowling alley at No. 326 Seventh street, Rockford, is one of the substantial men of the city. He was born at Rockford, January 30, 1888, a son of August and Sophia (Johnson) Lundahl, the former of whom, a native of Sweden, brought his wife to the United States in 1880, and located in DeKalb County, Ill. There he was associated with a Mr. Haish in a bar wire business for four years. Mr. Lundahl then came to Rockford where he embarked in a meat business, continuing it for two years when he went into a milk business and operated it for fourteen years. He then connected himself with the Chicago, Milwaukee & Gary Railroad at Rockford, and is still with this corporation, although he is sixty years old. His wife survives and they reside at No. 311 Longwood street. Fraternally he is a Modern Woodman. In politics he is a Republican, and he belongs to the Lutheran Church.

Arthur Lundahl spent his boyhood at Rockford where he was fitted for his after life by a course in the public schools. He then engaged in a meat business for a short time, when he and a Mr. Ryden started a billiard and pool room at No. 423 Seventh street, this association continuing for five years. A Mr. Lindholm buying out Mr. Ryden, Mr. Lundahl continued with the former until November 1, 1914, when, with Mr. Lagerstrom, he opened the finest billiard and

bowling establishment in Rockford, at No. 226 Seventh street. The firm carry a full line of cigars and have a soda fountain for the accommodation of patrons. When Mr. Lundahl started in business he had no capital, but as his honesty and ability were proverbial, he had no difficulty in borrowing sufficient money to make his start, and his success has justified his backers in their judgment.

On July 16, 1912, Mr. Lundahl was married to Miss Florence Bloomquist, a daughter of Frank and Hulda Bloomquist of Rockford.

LUNDBERG, David V., foreman of the Nels J. Bellstrom Machine Works, with residence at No. 1603 Fifteenth avenue, Rockford, is one of the capable, public-spirited and reliable citizens of the city. He was born near Rockford, August 20, 1891, but was educated in the public schools of Bremer County, Iowa. Until he was seventeen years old he worked at agricultural labor, and then was in a store at Frederick, Iowa, for a short time. In 1909 he came to Rockford to engage for a period with the Co-operative Furniture Company as a glazier. For two years he was with the Free Sewing Machine Company, but left on August 22, 1912, to enter the employ of his present company as an assembler, and in January, 1914, was made foreman of his present department.

On June 21, 1913, Mr. Lundberg was married to Gunhild H. Pillstrom, a daughter of his employer. One son, David J. A., was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lundberg, on June 7, 1914. Mr. Lundberg is a member of Camp No. 51, M. W. A. He attends the Mission Church. An expert machinist, Mr. Lundberg has given his work careful study and is worthy of the trust placed in him, and capable of discharging effectively and well the duties pertaining to his position.

LUNDGREN, P. A., who has recognized the demand for wholesome foodstuffs and is engaged in meeting it at No. 1017 Seventh street, Rockford, is one of the leading grocers in his neighborhood. He was born in Smolan, Sweden, August 8, 1841, a son of Peter Lundgren. His parents were also born at Smolan, Sweden, and there married, and the father continued to farm until in 1853 they came to the United States, first stopping at St. Charles, Ill. The father began farming in this neighborhood and after twenty-seven years bought another farm in the vicinity of St. Charles, and lived on it for twelve years; then retired and went to live with his daughter at Geneva, Ill., where he died. His wife died with the same daughter later on, later later on.

P. A. Lundgren was twelve years old when the family came to this country, and he remained with his parents in their new home, at his father's death buying the homestead from the other heirs, adding to its acreage to some extent. Later he sold this property and came to Rockford where he bought his present grocery business, and a handsome residence. At

present Mr. Lundgren has his two sons, L. D. and Robert in business with him.

In 1875 Mr. Lundgren was married to Miss Wilhelmina Bochlund, of St. Charles, Ill., whose parents were of Swedish descent. She died in 1909, and is buried in the Scandinavian cemetery. Her father followed farming in his native land where he and her mother passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Lundgren became the parents of the following children; Emily Augusta; Lawrence D. who married Anna Johnson, and has two children, Clifford La Verne and Howard Lawrence; Rosa May, who married Rev. Bergman, who are living at Cadillac, Mich., and they have two children, Evelyn and Stanley; Minnie E.; Robert F.; and Maynard B., at home. Mr. Lundgren is a Republican in politics. Zion Lutheran Church of Rockford holds his membership and benefits from his liberal contributions. He is a steady, hardworking man, and his advancement has come through his own efforts.

LUNDSTROM, Anton, mill room foreman of the Haddorff Piano Company, with residence at No. 728 South Third street, is one of the reliable mechanics of Rockford as well as one of the city's representative men. He was born in DeKalb County, Ill., September 26, 1876. He was educated in his native place and after completing his school days for the ensuing year worked on a farm, and then came to Rockford, arriving in this city in 1890. Immediately upon coming here he began working for the Forest City Furniture Company, but after seven months with that concern he went with the Union Furniture Company as a machine helper, but in 1893 was engaged by the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company, with which concern he remained eight years and there learned the trade of band sewing. Mr. Lundstrom then entered the Haddorff Piano Company factory and remained with it for two years, when his services were secured by the Forest City Furniture Company, which he left in 1912, to return to the Haddorff Piano Company as band sewer, and his skill was recognized in July of that year when he was made foreman of the mill room, and has since continued to hold that position capably and satisfactorily.

Mr. Lundstrom was married to Mary Larson, born in Sweden, and they have one son, Clifford R., born July 25, 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Lundstrom belong to the Mystic Workers. They are Swedish Lutherans. He is an expert in his trade and has forty men in his department.

LYFORD, Joseph G., one of the substantial agriculturists of section 11, Guilford Township, was born at Canterbury, N. H., December 2, 1839, a son of Thomas and Eliza (Greeley) Lyford, natives of Canterbury, N. H. The father was born February 14, 1807, and the mother in July, 1809.

Thomas Lyford was reared on a farm. He learned the stonecutting trade, followed it until his marriage, at which time he bought a small farm and lived on it until 1842. In that year

he sold it and with his family started for the West. They drove to Buffalo, N. Y., where the party took a lake boat to Chicago, and upon their arrival they drove from that village to Roscoe, Winnebago County, Ill., arriving there in October, 1842. Joseph G. Lyford was three years old. His father had bought a claim from his brother-in-law, Dudley Greeley, who had located at Roscoe in 1836, and on it the family settled down, the first farm ownership being afterward increased until the father had 650 acres of land. He took an interest in the settlement and development of the county, and was a man of importance in his day. In religious faith he was a Universalist. His death was occasioned by accident, on December 13, 1858, while he was operating a threshing machine. The mother died in June, 1874. They were the parents of six children, namely: Dudley, who was born in 1835, lived on the homestead until his death, May 21, 1914; Elizabeth, who is the widow of John Bradley, resides at Milwaukee, Wis.; Joseph A.; Alice H., who is the widow of Josiah Richardson, resides at Rockford; Thomas, who died at the age of fourteen years; A. Augusta, who lives at Rockford; and Charles C., who lives at Minneapolis, Minn.

Joseph G. Lyford attended the district schools in Roscoe Township, the high school at Roscoe, and spent two years at Beloit (Wis.) College. He then matriculated at the Albany (N. Y.) Law School, from which he was graduated, and was later admitted to the bar of his native state, and practiced his profession for three years at Rockford. He was sergeant in the sixty-third Illinois Infantry during the War of the Rebellion. He is a Republican, and has held several political offices in Guilford Township.

On January 1, 1868, Mr. Lyford was married to Miss Emily M. Brown, a resident of Rockford, Ill. Mrs. Lyford was born at Shirley, Mass., June 30, 1843, and was graduated from Rockford Seminary in 1863; she is a daughter of the Rev. Hope Brown, who was born at Concord, Mass., February 16, 1798. He was educated at Amherst College, from which he was graduated in 1828, and then entered Princeton University where he took the theological course, and was ordained in the orthodox church at Shirley, Mass., in 1830. Following that he served as pastor there for fifteen years. In 1845, with his wife and five children, he moved to Naperville, Ill. In 1831 Rev. Brown married Mary P. Fuller, of Fitchburg, Mass. Mr. and Mrs. Lyford have two children, namely: Starr, who was born February 5, 1872, married Margaret J. McFarland, and they reside on section 14, Guilford Township, and have the following children: Annetta M., Joseph H., Walter D., Franklin S., Russell A., Emily M., and Stanley J.; and May, who was born September 25, 1873, married Elmo M. Davis, on January 1, 1901, born in Guilford Township, and they reside on a farm on section 11. They have no children.

LYMAN, Dr. Charles Burt. Recognized as an authority in the field of psychological thera-

peutics, Dr. Charles Burt Lyman, of Rockford, has won his position through merit, combined with persistent, energetic work. He is a native of Rockford, and was born February 8, 1873, being a son of Edward Hill Lyman, taxidermist. His father was born at Schenectady, N. Y., in 1848, and died at Rockford, Ill., October 10, 1887. He was married April 23, 1872, to Miss Elizabeth Ethel Rhoades, who was born April 2, 1856, daughter of David and Caroline Christina (Carter) Rhoades, of Rockford, Ill.

Dr. William Lyman, B. A., the grandfather of Doctor Lyman, was born at Goshen, Mass., August 3, 1810, and died at Rockford, Ill., December 19, 1865. He was a member of the Illinois legislature in 1854-55, and during the years 1862 and 1863 was surgeon of the Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, seeing active service at the front during the Civil war. He was married March 28, 1844, to Miss Julia Ann Hill, who was born September 25, 1816, and died in 1876, she being a daughter of Col. Joseph Briggs and Harriet (Hempstead) Hill, of West Stockbridge, Mass.

Dr. Charles B. Lyman comes of a stock noted for brilliant achievements, liberal culture, strong personality and unbending integrity. The family is one of great antiquity, and the blood of many royal families runs in its veins. In authentic history the lineage of the family has been distinctly traced to Sir Rudolphus Lambert, Kn't, grandson of Lambert, Count of Lorraine, a kinsman of William the Conqueror; Alfred the Great, Charlemagne, Henry I, of France, Sir Thomas Umfreville, St. Arnolf, Bishop of Metz, Donald-Bane, King of Scots, Louis IV, D'Outremer, King of France, Robert the Strong, Duke of France, and Saier Baron de Quincey, one of the twenty-five barons who forced King John to sign the Magna Charta. In America the line of descent is traced to Richard and his wife Sarah (Osborne) Lyman who came to New England in 1631, Elder William Brewster, Col. George Denison, Dr. Comfort Starr, Rev. William Thompson, Capt. John Stanton, Sir Robert Hempstead, and many other persons prominent in Colonial and Revolutionary days.

Dr. Charles B. Lyman, psychologist, received his professional training in the following accredited educational institutions: Chicago School of Psychology, National Medical University, International Metaphysical University and Chicago School of Psycho-Physiology. He is a member of many scientific societies, and his work as a psychotherapist has been so successful that he has come to be recognized as an authority in his field. He is a member of the Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution, American Legion, Society of the War of 1812, United Military Order of America, Kent Lodge No. 689, I. O. O. F., and at present (1916) is patriotic instructor of John A. Logan Camp No. 26, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.

Mrs. Edward Hill Lyman, the mother of Dr. Lyman, is well known as an expert taxidermist, which profession she has followed since the death of her husband in 1887. Her work has

an inter-state reputation for trueness to Nature. She is one of only a few real daughters of the Illinois Society, United States Daughters of 1812, having been admitted a member of that society on March 30, 1916.

MACK, Stephen, page 637.

MAGNUSON, Gust H., foreman of the finishing department of the Rockford Standard Furniture Company, with residence at No. 1130 Fifteenth avenue, is a man in whom his company has implicit trust, and who stands unusually well with his associates and in his neighborhood. He was born in Sweden May 5, 1878, but was brought to Rockford from his native land when he was ten years old, and here given the advantages of the city's excellent public schools. His first work was done for the Nelson Knitting Company, and he left that concern to spend a short time with the Rockford Mantel Company. Following this for a short period he worked for the Palace Folding Bed Company, when in 1894 he became connected with the Rockford Standard Furniture Company as finisher, and about 1910, was made foreman of his department, since which time he has justified the trust reposed in him.

On May 5, 1903, Mr. Magnuson was married to Manny E. Liden, and their children are as follows: Leslie H., Evelyn M., Ina C. and Carl W. He belongs to Zion Lutheran Church, which benefits from his interest and generosity. In politics Mr. Magnuson is a Republican. He owns stock in the Workers Grocery Company and is a man of means, and an expert in his line of work. He is one of the leading examples of the prosperous, thrifty men of Swedish birth, who have risen at Rockford through their own industry and excellent business judgment.

MAHER, Edward, senior member of the well established and reliable plumbing firm of Maher & Smith, at No. 125 North Court street, is a carefully trained and experienced man and one who is an expert in his line. He was born at Middleton, N. Y., February 22, 1871, a son of Patrick and Sarah (Cannon) Maher. The father was born in Tipperary, Ireland, and the mother at Goshen, N. Y. Leaving Ireland in young manhood, the father located at Middleton, N. Y., where he worked as a mason, later went to New Jersey and was there engaged in mining, but in 1884 moved to Rockford, where he resumed work at his trade, so continuing until his retirement.

Edward Maher attended school in New Jersey until he was nine years of age. Although just a lad, he was employed as a water-boy for the New Jersey Zinc Company. After coming to Rockford he worked for the S. B. Wilkins Knitting Company, and a year later went with the Rockford Watch Case Company. After five years with this concern, during which time he rendered faithful service, he began learning the plumbing trade with W. H. Derham. In a year he went with J. Z. Royer, but in a short time made another change and engaged with J. S. Bassett of the Nelson Hotel. Subsequently he went to Chicago and spent four years. Return-

ing to Rockford at the expiration of this period, he was with E. S. Gregory, the plumber, for five years, when, in 1904, he and Mr. Smith formed their present firm, and opened up for business at their present stand, where they control a large and constantly increasing trade. The firm do plumbing contracting, and carry a full line of heating apparatus, gas pipes and similar goods required in their line of business. Mr. Maher's long and varied experience fits him for his work, and his knowledge and thoroughness commend him to those who have had business dealings with him. He is a member of the Eagles and Knights of Columbus. His residence is at No. 413 Oakley avenue.

MAHON, Thomas. Faithful performance of the everyday duties of life, upright living, and honorable action entitle a man to a place in the records of any community, for it is such men that make a place worth while, rather than those who come into the limelight through some spectacular achievement. Such a man was Thomas Mahon who for years was one of the substantial men of Rockford. His energies were employed in the business of teaming. He was born in County Meade, Ireland, a son of Thomas and Bridget (Clarke) Mahon, who came to Rockford when Thomas, Jr., was four-teen years old. The father was a farmer.

Thomas Mahon's educational advantages were confined to those offered by the common schools, but he was an honest, God-fearing man, and a consistent member of St. Mary's Catholic Church. After his marriage, Mr. Mahon continued to reside at Rockford, engaging in teaming, until his death in September, 1881. He had built a residence on S. Church street, in which Mrs. Mahon has since lived, and has recently remodeled it.

In September, 1864, Mr. Mahon married Ellen Meskell, born in County Cork, Ireland, a daughter of James and Ellen (Cahall) Meskell who came to the United States in 1850, and located at Boston, Mass. Later the father returned to Ireland, and there died. The mother came to Rockford in 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Mahon had the following children: Mary, who died at the age of sixteen years; John, who lives at Chicago; Catherine, who is Mrs. Charles Sharky of Superior, Wis.; Thomas Francis, who also lives at Superior, Wis., and William, who died in 1907, aged twenty-nine years.

MALOTT, Nathan W. One of the substantial and representative agriculturalists who, when living, bore his part in the development of Winnebago County, was the late Nathan W. Malott, of Harlem Township. He was a native son of this township, born August 27, 1856, a son of Theodore and Mary (Hutchins) Malott.

Theodore Malott was born in Ontario, Canada, near Windsor, where he was educated and lived until he attained his majority, at which time he came to the United States, and located in Harlem Township, this county. Here he obtained employment with George Hutchins as a farm

hand. He later bought the farm that passed into the possession of his son Nathan, and improving it, lived upon it until he retired from active life. He then moved to Roscoe, this county, purchased a comfortable home and spent eighteen years in it. He then returned to the farm and lived with his son for a period, when he returned to Roscoe, and there died, in 1907, aged seventy-five years. His wife survived him, passing away at the home of her son Nathan, aged seventy-five years.

Nathan W. Malott spent his boyhood upon his father's farm in Harlem Township, and was educated in the public schools of that neighborhood. In 1881 he began operating this homestead, but in four years moved to Merrimac, Wis., where for two years Mr. Malott was engaged in railroad work. He then returned to the farm and resumed his agricultural operations, continuing them until his death, which was caused by an accident, on December 14, 1913. He was filling an old well with boulders, and one slipping, killed him, ending a useful career and depriving his neighborhood of a most estimable citizen. Mr. Malott was a member of the Modern Woodmen, and held the office of treasurer at the time of his death. In politics he was a Republican, while his religious connections were with the Methodist Church. His burial was in Roscoe cemetery.

Mr. Malott was married in the Methodist Church at Beloit, Wis., to Elizabeth Burden, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hawkey) Burden. Mrs. Malott was born in Ontario, Canada, in 1861, but was taken in childhood by her parents to Michigan, and two years later to Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Malott had two children, namely: Harry T., born April 9, 1882, who married Alice Mathews, a daughter of William and Ella (Stockwell) Mathews of Owen Township this county, issue: Everett L. and Harry W.; and Evelyn May, born September 1, 1885, who is living with her widowed mother.

John Burden and his wife, parents of Mrs. Malott, were both born in Canada, but spent twenty years in Roscoe Township, after coming to Winnebago County, Ill., and here died.

MANLOVE, James G., page 720.

MANNON, Hall. There are some men who are entitled to a place in a record of this nature, although not at any time a resident of the county, because of the fact that members of their family have become important factors in this locality. One of these men was the late Hall Mannon. He was born in Indiana, in January, 1867, a son of Samuel Mannon of Indiana. When he was but a lad he began farming, although his father was superintendent of instruction for Fayette County, Ind., for many years. Later the father moved to Litchfield, Ill., where he became an express agent. Hall Mannon came with his father to Litchfield, and he became a meat cutter, so continuing until his death, in October,

1900. Fraternally he was an Odd Fellow, while in religious faith he was a Methodist.

In 1897 Mr. Mannon was married at Litchfield, Ill., to Minnie Beatrice Brown, born at Vandalia, Ill., in 1869, a daughter of Thomas Jefferson and Frances (Wallace) Brown, he born in Fayette County, Ill., September 5, 1839, and she was born in Greene County, Ill. For some years Mr. Brown lived on a farm with his parents in the vicinity of the place of his birth, but when he attained to maturity, he became a railroad engineer on the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad, holding that position for thirteen years, when he met with an accident, since which time he has been engaged in farming and saw milling. While living at Vandalia, Mr. Brown served as marshal for some years. Mrs. Brown died July 22, 1899, and Mr. Brown resided at Vandalia, Ill., until 1913, when he came to Rockford, and has since made his home with Mrs. Mannon.

After the death of Mr. Mannon, Mrs. Mannon returned to Vandalia, and there resided until April, 1, 1913, when she came to Rockford and bought her present residence on Corbin street. Mr. and Mrs. Mannon had one son, Carroll Brown, who was born January 16, 1898, and is employed as a machinist for the M. L. Love Manufacturing Company. Both the Mannon and Brown families have been prominent in the several localities where their members have lived, and the rising generation is a credit to both.

MANNY, John P., page 707.

MAPES, W. C. Modern ideas relative to sanitation and the reasonable demands of many households to enjoy the comforts of improved heating apparatus, have contributed in no small way to make the business of a plumber a very important one. One of the men who is sensibly taking advantage of this fact is W. C. Mapes, member of the reliable firm of Mapes Bros., of No. 407 S. Church street, Rockford. He was born at Rockford, July 22, 1875, and is a son of Fred and Ernestine (Grosch) Mapes.

Fred Mapes was born in Germany, and his wife near Milwaukee, Wis. When only a small boy Fred Mapes was brought from Germany to the United States by his parents, who located near Toronto, Canada, where the father farmed and engaged in hunting and trapping, and died there. The mother, the grandmother of W. C. Mapes, survives, being ninety-six years old. In young manhood Fred Mapes located at Milwaukee, Wis., where he married in 1869. He was a coachman there for a time, and later came to Rockford, Ill., and continued as a coachman, being employed by Mr. Van Cutler. Still later he went to Rockton, Ill., and there engaged in a retail liquor business for two years, but then returned to Rockford to engage in the same line, near the present site of the Forest City Bank, and he continued to conduct his business for twenty-seven years, then retired and lived at No. 407 S. Church street until his death in 1909, when aged sixty-three years. He was a Demo-

crat in politics. His wife died in 1904, aged fifty-eight years.

W. C. Mapes was reared and educated at Rockford, and his first employment was with the Rockford Watch Company, where he remained for three years. He then started to learn the plumbing business with W. H. Durham, plumber, and was with him for six years, then went with Royer Plum, plumber, continuing with him for two years. For the next five years he was with J. W. Maynard, and until 1904 was with a Mr. Gregory, when he embarked in business for himself at No. 315 S. Main street, and remained there for eight years. In 1912 he moved to his present location, which was the Mapes family homestead. His business is a large and constantly growing one, and is recognized as being a leader in this line.

In 1859 Mr. Mapes was married to Miss Amy Hollister, and they have one child, Robert, who is fourteen years old. In politics Mr. Mapes is a Democrat, but not active, confining his public duties to casting his vote for the candidate of his party.

MAREAN, Harry, assessor of Winnebago County and one of the competent officials and public spirited men of Rockford, was born near Belvidere, Ill., October 15, 1858, a son of Marvin C. and Olive A. (Howard) Marean. He attended the public schools of his native place until fifteen years old, when he went to Freeport. There he learned the printing trade, working in various printing offices. He continued at Freeport until 1877 when he came to Rockford, which continued to be his home until his death, which occurred April 6, 1916. Until 1909 he continued working at his trade, being with the old Register and the Register-Gazette from 1877 until 1909. He was the first business manager with the Republican, later changed to the Republic, being one of the organizers. When the Register-Gazette was formed by consolidating the Register and the Gazette, he went with the new concern as foreman of the mechanical department, remaining with it until December 25, 1909. In 1907 he had been elected township assessor. This office he filled in conjunction with his other work. In 1909 he left the newspaper business and bought the R. H. Ross insurance and real estate business and conducted it very profitably, developing it to a considerable extent. In his work he had the assistance of his son, Hollis A., who, on his father's death, was appointed to succeed him as assessor and school treasurer of Rockford Township. Mr. Marean succeeded himself in the office of township assessor at subsequent elections from 1907 on. He was made a Mason in 1911, and became prominent in that order. He was an active member of the Centennial Methodist Church of Rockford, being on the board of trustees at the time of his death, and for many years previously.

On October 20, 1886, Mr. Marean was married to Hattie S. Fay, a daughter of Orson C. and Mary E. (Sears) Fay, who survived him, together with their two children, namely: Hollis

A. and Mary O. The family is well known in Winnebago County, Mr. Marean being highly respected for his integrity, his breadth of judgment, his fidelity to every trust and his staunch support of the best interests of the community and of good citizenship.

MARSH, Jason, page 656.

MARSTON, George W., one of the survivors of the Civil war now residing in Winnebago County, has been associated with its agricultural history and also with its educational movements. He was born in New York state, February 12, 1835, a son of Charles and Meribah (Morrill) Marston, who came to Seward Township, Winnebago County, Ill., in 1845, and bought land from the government. The father died in 1872 and the mother in 1876.

The education of George W. Marston was secured in the public schools of Winnebago County. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company C, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served until August 9, 1862, when he was mustered out at Chicago. Wounded at the battle of Shiloh, he lay on the battlefield for three days before he was rescued and thereby was incapacitated for further service. He was in the Marine Hospital, Chicago, for some time prior to his discharge.

On August 23, 1863, Mr. Marston was married to Miss Sarah Scott. Her father was a physician who brought his family to Illinois in 1857 and located in Seward Township, Winnebago County. During the Civil war he was a surgeon in the Union cause. His death occurred in 1901 when he was eighty-one years old. Dr. Scott's wife died in 1889, aged sixty-five years. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Marston have been as follows: Anson, who is a professor in the Iowa State College, dean of the engineering department; Amos W., who has been an active practicing lawyer of Chicago for twenty-one years; Charles L., who is a physician at Mason City, Iowa; Mary A.; George, who lives on the old homestead which is located six miles southeast of Seward; and Robert, who is at home.

In religious faith Mr. Marston is a Methodist, while his wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church. The latter was a teacher for some years prior to her marriage in the public schools of Stephenson and Winnebago counties, her first school being taught in a log school-house west of Freeport. Mr. Marston is a Republican and served as a school director for nine years. He is justly proud of his family, which comprises in addition to his wife and children, thirteen grandchildren, and he is actively interested in whatever promises to be of benefit to them or the community. He is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R.

MARTYN, James B., page 643.

MATSON, James C., senior member of the firm of J. C. Matson & Company, manufacturers of leather belting, with plant at No. 703 W. State

street, is one of the alert business men of Rockford who has known how to take advantage of a demand, and through supplying it, build up a large trade. He was born at Chicago, Ill., June 27, 1871, a son of Martin and Sophia Matson. The parents were natives of Denmark, where the father was a farmer, but after coming to the United States in young manhood, and locating at Chicago, he embarked in a belting business. He is now living retired at Chicago. The mother died at the age of sixty years. Fraternally the father belongs to the Knights of Pythias. He enlisted for service during the Civil war, at Chicago, and after four years' service was honorably discharged. He belongs to the G. A. R.

James C. Matson was reared at Chicago, and there educated. He went into the belting business, and for twenty-one years was associated with the Munson Belting Company as its traveling mechanic, visiting Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, New York and New Orleans, and in 1905 he came to Rockford to establish himself in the line of business he had learned so thoroughly. He now carries on a general mill supply business, and is a recognized authority on all mechanical matters relating to belting manufacturing, and his plant is a large and well equipped one for his purpose.

In 1904 Mr. Matson married Miss Elizabeth Hart, a daughter of Cornelius and Bridget Hart, early settlers of Winnebago County, and substantial farmers. The family are all Republicans. A man of thoroughness, Mr. Matson has turned his ability to account, and his reliability which stood him in such good stead while working for others, is one of his best assets now that he is conducting his own business, and his general worth is universally recognized.

MAY, William Henry. With the passing of William Henry May, Rockford lost one of its most representative citizens and honorable business men whose activity in the commercial field was marked by integrity and efficiency of service. Mr. May was born at Belvidere, Ill., 1844, and died November 20, 1895.

William Henry May was educated in his native place where he lived until seventeen years old, at which time he went to Pike's Peak, Col., in search of gold, but returned in a year, and spent the next year at Belvidere, and then went to California, and spent another year at gold mining. Once more he came back to Belvidere, but later moved to Rockford and here embarked in a jewelry business with a Mr. Friedman. Selling his business after a few years, he once more went to California for a year, but in 1878 returned permanently to Rockford, where he resumed his business relations with Mr. Friedman, in the jewelry business. Six years later these connections were severed and Mr. May went into a jewelry business on his own account, being engaged in conducting this establishment at the time of his demise. He was an Odd Fellow fraternally, and a Democrat in politics.

October 6, 1880, Mr. May was married to Miss Mary Hamilton, a daughter of John D. and

Nancy (Drew) Hamilton, and they became the parents of one son, George E. Mr. Hamilton was born at Bernardston, Mass., in January, 1811, and his wife was born at Alton Bay, N. H. They were married at North Andover, Mass., in 1837. There Mr. Hamilton was in a machine business with a partner to whom he later sold his interest, and moved to Conway, Mass., where he was engaged in the same line for five years, then selling, he was connected with the Otis Company, machinists at Ware, Mass., until 1874, when he retired and moved to Rockford. Here he lived until his death, June 17, 1887. Mrs. Hamilton died at Rockford, January 4, 1904. The grandparents died in Massachusetts. Mrs. May is living with her son at No. 302 North Fifth street, Rockford, and is in excellent health.

MAYNARD, Edward C., not only did his full duty as a private citizen during his lifetime, but served bravely and faithfully when his country had need of his services during the Civil war. He has passed from mortal ken, but his memory is cherished and his example held up for others to follow. Mr. Maynard was born at Rockford, October 5, 1841, a son of Henry and Emeline L. (Kilburn) Maynard, natives of Massachusetts. They came in the late thirties to Rockford, where he worked as a carpenter and spent the remainder of his life in this city. Their children were as follows: Edward C.; Henry, who resides at Rockford; Maria, who resides at Rockford; and Charles, who resides at Chehalis, Wash.

Edward C. Maynard attended the common schools of Rockford. Becoming interested in the Colorado gold fields he went to that state on a mining expedition with James Lake. They drove across the country with oxen, taking six weeks to make the trip. After two years spent in mining, Mr. Maynard returned to Illinois, and enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, on August 7, 1862. He was taken prisoner, but was soon thereafter paroled, and was discharged May 20, 1863, on account of disability. He returned to Rockford and took up carpenter work and contracting, and rendered efficient service as assistant superintendent of streets for two years, but before this, he was on the police force for four years. He died August 1, 1909. He was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Rockford Camp No. 51, and Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. In politics he was a Republican.

Mr. Maynard was first married to Eliza Oatzman, of one of the New England states, and they had the following children: Frank William, Mary E. and Nellie, all of whom are deceased. Mrs. Maynard died October 13, 1870. On November 4, 1886, Mr. Maynard was married (second) to Susan Merchant, born in Burritt Township, Winnebago County, Ill., May 17, 1854, a daughter of James and Margaret (Milne) Merchant, born in Aberdeen, Scotland, who settled in Burritt Township in 1850. The children of

Mr. and Mrs. Merchant were as follows: Elizabeth, who lives with Mrs. Maynard; Mrs. Maynard; and Mary, who is the widow of Alonzo H. Cox, resides at Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Maynard became the parents of two children: Vera T., who was born November 29, 1888, is now Mrs. H. S. Bigelow of Rockford; and Bertha H., who was born July 13, 1891, is now Mrs. W. L. Stevens of Rockford. Mrs. Maynard belongs to the Woman's Relief Corps.

MAYNARD, Frank E., one of the leading members of the bar of Winnebago County, and a candidate for the office of state's attorney of Winnebago County, has his offices at No. 202 Trust Building, Rochester. He was born at Oregon, Ogle County, Ill., March 11, 1885, and is a son of Henry and Frances (Sargent) Maynard.

Henry Maynard, his father, was born at Rockford, Ill., in 1846 and enlisted in the Union army during the Civil war, at the age of seventeen years, and served one year until the close of the war as a private, at which time he received an honorable discharge and returned to Rockford. He learned the butchering business in the market of Upton & Fay, in Rockford, and then went to Oregon, Ogle County, Ill., and pursued this business for several years. It was at Oregon where he met the lady who became his wife, Frances J. Sargent, and they were married at the home of her parents on the Hemmenway farm, now known and called the Sinnissippi farm, owned by Col. Frank O. Lowden. His mother as a girl was well known and a favorite in and about the county seat of Ogle County. There were three hundred guests present at her wedding. About the year 1880 Mr. Maynard's parents moved to near Yankton, South Dakota, where they farmed for several years, then returning to Ogle County, settled on the farm where they resided until 1904, at which time they moved to the city of Oregon, where they lived until 1914, when they moved to Rockford, and are now back at Mr. Maynard's old home, and live at 923 Kilburn avenue, Rockford, Ill. Henry Maynard is a member of the G. L. Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R.

Attorney Frank E. Maynard resided with his father and mother on the farm in Ogle County until the year of 1904, when they moved to Oregon, after which Attorney Maynard became associated with the Ogle County Abstract Company at Oregon, and later studied law in the office of J. C. Seyster, a prominent attorney of Ogle County, and upon leaving the office of J. C. Seyster, took a special law course in the University of Illinois at Urbana.

Mr. Maynard worked his own way through school and college, and is a self-made man in every respect. He is one of a family of eight children, six boys and two girls, whose names are as follows: Harry E., a mechanic; Charles H., a dentist; Neil E., a trained nurse; Fred B., a farmer; Alice Donaldson; Curtis H., a pharmacist; Arthur H., a student of law; and Frank E., an attorney.

On November 29, 1911, Attorney Maynard was married to Jessie Louise Joslin, of Sycamore,

Ill., a daughter of James C. and Katherine Joslin.

Attorney Frank E. Maynard is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Star in the East Lodge 166 of Rockford, and is commander of the John A. Logan Camp No. 26, sons of Veterans, U. S. A. He is a member of the Yeomen of America, the Mystic Workers of the World, of the Brotherhood of the Court Street Methodist Church, the Chamber of Commerce in Rockford, and is also a member of the University of Illinois Club, and of the Veterans of the Third Illinois, I. N. G.

Mr. Maynard has educated himself by his own efforts, and has built up a growing practice in the city of Rockford, and is counted as one of the strong members of the Winnebago County bar.

MAYNARD, Henry H., an honored resident of Rockford and a veteran of the Civil war who enjoys universal confidence and esteem, was born in this city, November 17, 1847, and has continued a loyal son of Rockford all his life. He is a son of Henry and Lucy Eveline (Kilburn) Maynard, natives of Massachusetts. The father came to Rockford in 1835, one year after the town was laid out, but in 1836 returned to his old home. There he married and came back to Rockford, bringing with him Benjamin Kilburn who afterwards married Henry Maynard's sister. Henry Maynard had been a machinist at Worcester, Mass., and he and his brother-in-law, Benjamin Kilburn, conducted a blacksmith shop at Rockford. Later he worked at carpentering and became the owner of city property and farm land, operating the latter for many years. At the time of his death, in 1867, he was residing on School street, Rockford. His wife died in 1901, aged eighty-nine years.

Henry H. Maynard was eighteen years old when he began working for Rockford business men, and he so continued until 1870, when he embarked in a meat market business, but in 1872 went to Oregon, Ill., where for two years he worked in a meat market, and then started another meat market of his own, selling it in 1875. He then went to Bonhomme, S. Dak., where he homesteaded 160 acres and a 160-acre timber claim, proving up the homestead and relinquishing the timber claim later on for property in Oregon, Ill. In 1882 he traded all his interests in South Dakota and purchased a farm three miles from Oregon, in Oregon Township, Ill., which he conducted until 1904, when he rented out his farm and moved to Mt. Morris, Ill., and there spent eighteen months. Later he sold and bought property at Rockford where he now resides. During the Civil war he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, February 5, 1865, and did scout and parole duty, until he was discharged at Savannah, Ga. He was mustered out at Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill., February 5, 1866. He is a member of the G. A. R. and enjoys meeting with his old comrades.

On November 17, 1873, Mr. Maynard was married at Oregon, Ill., to Frances J. Sargent, born at Mendota, Ill., but brought to Oregon in childhood by her parents, Harvey P. and Cordelia

(Foster) Sargent, natives of Connecticut and of Albany, Mass. Mr. and Mrs. Maynard became the parents of the following children: Harvey Eugene, who is a machinist, who lives in Wisconsin; Charles H., who is a dentist at Sycamore, Ill.; Clyde, who died in infancy; Cornelia E., who is a trained nurse at Rockford; Fred Benjamin, who now lives in Iowa; Frank E., who lives at Rockford, is an attorney, member of the firm of Maynard & Knight; Alice, who is Mrs. John F. Donaldson of Mt. Morris, Ill.; H. Curtis, who is a druggist of Chicago; and Arthur, who resides with his parents. Mr. Maynard attended both the graded and high schools of Rockford, and Mrs. Maynard was educated in the public schools of Oregon, Ill. She is a Lutheran in religious faith. Mr. Maynard is a Republican, while fraternally he belongs to the Masonic order. In every walk of life he has proven his worth and his high standing has been honorably won and sustained.

McALLISTER, Martin H. Among the officers of Winnebago County, few have a better record for conscientious service than has Martin H. McAllister, county coroner, an office in which he has served since 1908. A native son of Winnebago County, he has passed his entire life within its limits, and has built up a substantial reputation as an honored man of business and an excellent public servant. Mr. McAllister was born in New Milford Township, Winnebago County, Ill., October 25, 1869, and is a son of Elvin J. and Catherine (McGuire) McAllister.

Elvin J. McAllister was born March 15, 1839, about sixty rods from the birthplace of his son, but in Ogle County, near the county line. In 1865 he was married to Catherine McGuire, who was born in Toronto, Canada, township of Cornwell. During the Civil war he enlisted in the Second Illinois Light Artillery, an organization with which he spent three years, when he received his honorable discharge. Having been reared an agriculturist, when his military career was completed he returned to the pursuits of the soil, continuing to be engaged therein until the year 1889, when he moved to Rockford and accepted a position as night watchman in a furniture factory. He is now retired from active labors and he and Mrs. McAllister are making their home with their son, Martin H., who was the third in order of birth of their eight children.

Martin H. McAllister received the foundation for his education in the district schools of New Milford Township, following which he enrolled as a student at Rockford Academy, an institution from which he was graduated with the class of 1890. He next secured a position as clerk in a grocery and meat market and continued to be thus employed until entering the employ of the Grand Union Tea Company, with which concern he was connected until 1907. Mr. McAllister then became the proprietor of a business of his own when, on August 1, 1907, he opened an undertaking establishment. This was a somewhat daring venture, as at the time he

was without funds or influential backing, but his business ability soon asserted itself, and in the years that have since passed he has developed a substantial enterprise.

Mr. McAllister was first elected coroner of Winnebago County in 1908, and since that time has continued to retain the office. His duties have been discharged in a most capable and conscientious manner, and his official record is a clear and interesting one, including among its incidents the conviction of several poisoners. Fraternally, Mr. McAllister is a member of Winnebago Lodge of Odd Fellows, Scottish Clans No. 203, American Yeomen and the Knights of Pythias. He belongs to the First Presbyterian Church, was a teacher for two years and at one time was also treasurer of the Sunday school.

Mr. McAllister was married (first) March 20, 1894, to Mary Elizabeth Harvey, who died September 11, 1901. She was a daughter of Mathew Harvey, who was a member of the firm of Harvey & Compton, agricultural implement dealers at Rockford for many years, and Jane (Ralston) Harvey. One daughter was born to this union: Helen, born December 13, 1896, residing with her father. Mr. McAllister was married (second) June 5, 1907, to Irene E. Foresyth, daughter of George and Elvira (Foster) Foresyth.

MCCARTNEY, James William, dealer in motorcycles and bicycles and general repair man and owner of a garage at No. 524 W. State street, is one of the alert young business men of Rockford who have kept abreast of the times, and prepared themselves to meet the demands of changing conditions. He was born at Rockford, November 9, 1886, a son of George Robert and Isabelle (McRoberts) McCartney.

George Robert McCartney and wife were born in County Armagh, Ireland. In young manhood he left Ireland for Canada, locating at a point in the vicinity of Toronto, where he engaged in farming. Later he came to the United States, and became a hotel clerk at Howard, Ill., remaining there for three years. He then came to Rockford, where he learned the tinning business and went into partnership with Daniel C. Muttiner, this association continuing for a number of years, when Mr. McCartney sold and went with the Rockford Watch Company. After some years he engaged in a real estate business, building and selling houses, and is still so occupied. He was married at Beloit, Wis. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

James William McCartney was educated at Rockford, and upon leaving school worked in different machine shops and factories at Rockford. Later he went to St. Paul, Minn., where he was with the Globe Iron Works, leaving this concern for the Stickney Gas Engine Works, and still later was with the Theim Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of bicycle supplies. After some years with this latter company, he went with the W. D. Brocket Machine Company of Minneapolis, Minn., leaving this company for the Valentine Bros. Gas Engine Works of

the same city. After a year he went with the Washburn-Crosby Flour Mills Company and still later went to Madison, Wis., where he spent a short period working at his trade of machinist. He then left Madison for New Orleans, La., by way of Chicago, where he stopped for a short time. Upon his arrival in New Orleans he began working at his trade, and so continued for eighteen months, when he went to St. Louis, and after a short stop went on to Belvidere, Ill. From that place he came back to Rockford, and engaged with the Barber-Coleman Machine Company as a machinist, and this association continued for two and one-half years, when he connected himself with Sullivan & Bick, and they started the Oxyacetylene Welding and Repair Shop, on January 29, 1914. He continued with them until January 15, 1915, when he bought out his associate and now owns and manages the business, having a very large and liberal patronage. On May 25, 1916, he removed his place of business to 110-112 N. Madison street, the building being two stories and basement, having a frontage of 40 feet. Fraternally he belongs to the Yeomen of America. A skilled mechanic, and excellent business man, Mr. McCartney has kept advancing, and his prosperity is well deserved.

MCCREATH, James, one of the leading plumbers of Rockford, has his shop conveniently located at No. 320 Mulberry avenue, where he conducts a flourishing business. He was born at Guelph, Ontario, Canada, May 8, 1866, a son of James and Anna (McKail) McCreath. The parents were married in their native place of Ayr, Scotland, but left it for Canada, where the father engaged in farming and milling. In 1879 he brought his family to Peru, Ill., where he took charge of a flour mill, and conducted it for three years, when he moved to Ottawa, Ill., and spent a year, and then located at Milwaukee, Wis., where he died, and the mother also passed away in that city. They were consistent members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics the father was a Republican.

Until he was ten years old, James McCreath lived in Canada, but at that time was taken to Peru, where he completed his education. For five years thereafter he was with Benton, Grove & Company, who conducted a type foundry business, and then went to Chicago, where he learned to be a plumber. Four years later he went to Decatur, Ala., where he worked at his trade for a year, and then spent two years at Huntsville, Ala., with the gas company of that place. Returning to Chicago, he remained in that city for a number of years, after which he spent a short time at Galesburg, Danville and Decatur, Ill. In 1902 he came to Rockford, and was employed with E. S. Gregory. Subsequently he moved to Freeport, but returned to Rockford, and in 1909, established his present business, which he has built up to large proportions. He is a Woodman of the World, and important in that order.

In 1902 Mr. McCreath was married at Deca-

tur, Ill., to Miss Olive Roberts, and they have two children: Isabell A. and Robert J. Mr. McCreath is industrious and thrifty, and being an expert in his line is able to carry out very satisfactorily the contracts he takes.

MCDONALD, Charles W. Winnebago County is preeminently adapted for agricultural operations, and many of the most progressive men of this section have devoted themselves to farming, among them being Charles W. McDonald, a well known and respected resident of Pecatonica Township. He was born in Richland County, Ohio, October 15, 1865, a son of Freidus and Rebecca (Cable) McDonald. The father served as a drummer boy in the War of 1812. He subsequently became a farmer and civil engineer. The boyhood of Charles W. McDonald was passed in Ohio. In 1881 he came to Winnebago County, Ill., and now is a farmer and stockraiser on section 9, Pecatonica Township, where he rents 200 acres of land.

On November 8, 1896, Mr. McDonald was married to Miss Elizabeth Keehner, a daughter of Jacob and Ellen (Werts) Keehner. She was born in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald became the parents of the following children: Robert E., Harvey R., Arthur F., Charles W., Eugene L., Bertha M., Dorothy E., Alice R. and Audry E. In politics Mr. McDonald is a Republican, but has not aspired to public office. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

MCDONALD, John, a prosperous agriculturist of Harlem Township, has honorably earned his present position among the leading men of Winnebago County. He was born in Argyle, Harlem, Township, March 16, 1860, a son of Duncan and Isabelle (Ralston) McDonald. After a boyhood spent in attendance at the public schools of his native township and in assisting his father, at the age of twenty years, John McDonald began working for David Andrews, proprietor of a grain elevator at Argyle, Ill., where he remained for fourteen months. For the following two years, he was once more with his parents, and then in 1883, he associated himself with the Spring Lake factory, owned by William McCready, who was also the proprietor of the McHenry Company Creamery and the cheese factory. After eight months with this employer, he spent another eight months with Charles Gould, proprietor of a creamery business, at Algonquin, Ill. Following this, for thirteen years Mr. McDonald was with the Argyle Creamery factory, and then returned to Harlem Township, where he purchased a creamery of his own. This he conducted very profitably for four years and then sold it to H. W. Cormickle of Rockford, Ill. Mr. McDonald then went to Davis Junction in Ogle County, Ill., and bought another creamery and conducted it for a year. At the expiration of that period he traded the property for 480 acres of Dakota land, and resided upon that farm for eight years. Once more he returned to Harlem Township, and since 1912 has made it

his home. In addition to his Dakota property, he owns about 200 acres in Harlem Township.

In 1894 Mr. McDonald married Anette Picken, a daughter of Charles and Grace (Morrison) Picken, natives of Argyleshire, Scotland. Mr. Picken came to the United States with his parents and settled at Argyle, Winnebago County, Ill. Mrs. Picken died in 1881. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald had the following children born to them: Grace I., George D., Mary A., Blanch E., Florence J., and Charles J. Mr. McDonald is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Politically he is a Republican. A man of sound principles, he has lived up to his convictions and is justly recognized as one of the substantial men of his locality.

MCDONALD, Wm. A prosperous representative of the farming class of Winnebago County is found in the person of William McDonald, who is carrying on extensive operations in Harlem Township. He has been a resident of this community all of his life, having been born on the old McDonald farm, owned by his father, February 6, 1869, a son of Duncan and Isabelle (Ralston) McDonald.

Duncan McDonald was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, in 1823, a son of John and Mary (Reid) McDonald, who both died in Scotland. He came to the United States in 1850, settling at Argyle, Harlem Township, Winnebago County, Ill., where he worked for a few years for Mr. Love, who had the contract for building the Northwestern Railroad through this part of the state. Mr. McDonald received fifty cents per day for his labor, and out of this was able to save enough to make the first payment on the farm where his son now lives, securing the 160 acres at \$12 per acre. He added to this until he had a farm of 240 acres, and there resided until his death, in 1885, at the age of sixty-two years. He was a very public-spirited man and was ever ready to lend a helping hand in time of need, being also a liberal donator to the Presbyterian Church at Argyle, of which he was a member.

Duncan and Isabelle (Ralston) McDonald were married in 1857 on her father's farm near Caledonia, Boone County, Ill., and then went to live on the farm where the son, William, now resides. She still survives her husband and is eighty-three years of age. She was born December 14, 1832, in Argyleshire, Scotland, where her parents were married, and with them came to the United States in 1850. The family located first at Argyle, and later her father bought 120 acres of land near Caledonia, Boone County, adding to this until he had 220 acres. Mr. Ralston died in 1865, at the age of seventy-five years, while the mother passed away in 1879. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald had six children: David, who died in Harlem Township in 1909; John, a farmer of section 10, Harlem Township; Isabelle, who lives with her brother, William; Mary, who died at this home in 1880; and Martha, who died in Harlem Township in 1874.

William McDonald spent his boyhood days in

Harlem Township and received his education in the public school. He has always been a farmer, and at the present time engages in stockraising and feeding, as well as dairying. Mr. McDonald lived with his grandfather until he reached manhood, when he started out in life for himself, first working by the day and later buying a farm of 180 acres, on which he now makes his home. He is a member of the Argyle Presbyterian Church, and in politics is a Republican.

In 1896 Mr. McDonald was married to a Miss McDonald, who is a daughter of John R. and Jessie (Breckenridge) McDonald, who were born in Argyleshire, Scotland, and came to the United States at different times. They have three children: Isabelle R., John D. and Marfha O.

MCDONNELL, Leo H., refrigerating engineer of the Consumers Company of Rockford, with residence at No. 852 N. First street, is recognized as one of the most expert and reliable men in his line, and a man who stands very high in public esteem. He was born on a farm near Steward, Ill., February 18, 1881. While he was attending school, his family moved to Rochelle, and he completed his education in the schools of that place. In 1896 Mr. McDonnell came to Rockford and began working for the American Corn Products Company as assistant engineer, and remained with them about seven years, and then went with the E. V. B. Company and remained about five years as assistant engineer. Following this he was engaged in work for various plumbing and steam fitting establishments as a steam fitter, and then formed his present connection, his long and varied experience making him an adept at this work.

On December 25, 1902, Mr. McDonnell was married at Geneva, Ill., to Sarah L. Wigton, born at Geneva, and their children are as follows: Frances L., Charles R. and Thomas H., all of whom are at home. Mr. McDonnell belongs to St. James Cathedral, as do the other members of the family. He has always been a Republican. A man of steady, industrious habits, Mr. McDonnell has forged ahead, and deserves the success to which he has attained.

MCDUGALL, Donald Campbell, a man of unusual keenness of mind and thoroughness of purpose, is now living retired at Rockford after many years devoted to agricultural pursuits in Winnebago County. He was born in Perthshire, Scotland, in the little village of Comrie, March 22, 1829. A peculiarity of this village is that generally whenever Mt. Vesuvius is in eruption, an earthquake takes place in it. During his young manhood Mr. McDougall learned to be a gardener and belonged to the Free Gardeners while living in Scotland. In 1851, he decided to come to the United States, and marrying the day before he took passage, he crossed the ocean with his wife, and spent the first three months of his stay in the New World on Long Island. Not finding conditions there to please him, he came on west to Winnebago County, and engaged

in farming and school teaching in order to earn sufficient money to buy some land. When he had enough to make a payment, he secured eighty acres of section 12, Burritt Township, and has since made all the improvements upon this farm. Later he added to his holdings until he now owns 300 acres. On this he lived until 1904, when he retired, and is now residing at 2607 W. State street, Rockford.

In 1851 Mr. McDougall was married (first) to Jessie Patterson, a daughter of James and Jane (Mowatt) Patterson, the former of whom was a nailmaker. Mr. and Mrs. McDougall had six children, as follows: Jane, who is deceased; Catherine, who is also deceased; John, who is a farmer in Burritt Township; James, who lives in Rockford; Alonzo, who is deceased; and Arthur, who is living on the old homestead. On May 15, 1900, the first Mrs. McDougall died, and on October 15, 1904, Mr. McDougall was married (second) to Mrs. Urizla (Blackington) T. J. Whitney, widow of T. J. Whitney, formerly of Roscoe, Ill., where her parents, Jesse and Paula (Montgomery) Blackington, first settled. It is somewhat remarkable that Mrs. McDougall was married the first time in 1851, the same year in which Mr. McDougall's marriage occurred.

Mr. McDougall has held every political office in his township, except that of assessor, and was a faithful official. Generally speaking, he has been a Republican, although at times he has cast his vote for the man rather than for the party. He has always been interested in local matters. Since 1852 he has been a Spiritualist, and has witnessed some very remarkable demonstrations confirming him in his faith. He has one of the finest libraries of selected books in the West, having more than 500 volumes, all of them being of a scientific nature. At a very early date he started to study phrenology and studied under George Combe and Dr. Franz Gall, and learned the Spurzheim methods, and at this day, when aged eighty-seven years, he is a firm believer in this science and his faith. He has always given them exhaustive study, phrenology and spiritualism having been his hobbies all his life. The universe is governed by Law, and man's soul is no exception.

McEVOY, Robert G., page 721.

McFARLAND, H. D., whose book and stationery store at No. 421 W. State street, Rockford, is headquarters for all kinds of goods in his line, is one of the progressive business men of the West side, and a very desirable citizen. He was born at Rockford, March 23, 1875, a son of Alexander and Carrie (Farr) McFarland.

Alexander McFarland was born at Springfield, Mass., where he learned the cabinetmaker's trade, and was employed at the government arsenal in manufacturing gun stocks during the Civil war. Subsequently he came to Rockford to engage with the Clark & Utter Manufacturing Company, and while he was here, he and the chief mechanic, Mr. Gotham, secured a pat-

ent on the knot tire for binders. The father remained with this concern for twenty-one years, and then retired, having the record during that long period of never having lost a day's work. He is now living in Winnebago Township, being eighty-six years old. The mother, who was also born at Springfield, Mass., is also living and is eighty years old. Her parents came to Rockford with Mr. McFarland, and here died at the ages of eighty-four and eighty-two years, respectively. In politics Mr. McFarland is a Republican.

H. D. McFarland grew to manhood at Rockford and attended school until fourteen years old when he began working in H. H. Waldo's book-store, receiving \$2 per week. For twenty-one years he maintained his connection with this concern, and was promoted from time to time. In 1911 he left to establish his present business, which he has built up intelligently, now having one of the most complete stocks of any similar store in the entire city.

In 1901 Mr. McFarland was married to Miss Lena K. Gill, a daughter of Frank C. and Catherine (Wallace) Gill of Geneva, Ill. Mrs. McFarland's father was one of the leading dentists of Rockford and here died. He was a consistent member of the Christian Church. In politics he was a Republican. It is an interesting fact to note that the elder Mr. McFarland built six houses at Rockford while in the employ of the Clark & Utter Manufacturing Company, all of this extra work being done after he had completed his day's labor extending over ten hours.

McFARLAND, Parley E., senior member of the firm of McFarland & Merritt, proprietors of the Marmon Garage, Inc., is one of the progressive men of Rockford. He has not been slow in showing his appreciation of the fact that the demand for efficient garage service is growing, and he and his partner maintain a first class garage and act as agents for the Marmon automobile, their premises at Nos. 507-509 W. State street being admirably adapted for their purposes. He was born at Lowell, Washington County, Ohio, November 7, 1883, a son of Joseph and Constance (Kirtpatrick) McFarland. Joseph McFarland and his wife were both born at Lowell, and they still survive, he being now engaged in fruit growing. In politics Joseph McFarland is a Republican.

Parley E. McFarland lived at Lowell, Ohio, until he was fifteen years old. At that time he went to Maxberg, Ohio, to work in the oil fields and there became a tool dresser, being thus employed for five years. He then engaged with the Pennsylvania Railroad and after serving it for a short time, went to Kenosha, Wis., where he went with the Rambler Automobile Company, and later came to Rockford, where he accepted a position with W. F. & John Barnes and continued with this concern for four years as a machinist. Following that he was with the Barber-Coleman Company's machine factory for a number of years. His next connection was

with A. T. Roberts in his garage, and after two years Mr. McFarland bought out Mr. Roberts, and in partnership with a Mr. Vandervyllen founded the present business and conducted it for two years. At the expiration of that time Mr. McFarland bought out his partner, and later sold a half interest to R. R. Berryman, in 1913, and W. S. Merritt purchased Mr. Berryman's interest in November, 1915. The firm is known now as the Marmon Garage, Inc. This garage is the most fully equipped in Rockford, and a large business is carried on at all seasons. Mr. McFarland is a Republican, but has not gone into public life, his time being fully occupied with his business affairs.

McGEACHY, William R., a prominent and successful farmer of Winnebago Township, whose agricultural operations are carried out according to progressive ideas, was born on the farm where he now resides, May 9, 1868, a son of John and Martha (Ralston) McGeachy, both natives of Scotland. His paternal grandparents were William and Elizabeth (Andrew) Ralston. They emigrated to the United States from Scotland, in 1843, and settled in Boone County, Ill., where they lived and died on the farm where they originally settled.

John McGeachy, the father of William R., was born in Scotland, June 13, 1833, and was reared to manhood on his native heath. He worked on a farm there until 1857, when he emigrated to Canada, and remained there six months, then left for Boone County, Ill. In 1863 he left Boone County for Winnebago County and worked on a rented farm for four years. In the fall of 1867 he purchased 134 acres of land on sections 3 and 4, Winnebago Township, where he still resides, being now eighty-two years old. On June 10, 1864, he was married to Martha Ralston, who was born in Scotland February 10, 1832, and came to Boone County, Ill., with her parents in 1843. She died on her birthday, February 10, 1914, aged eighty-two years.

The only child of his parents, William R. McGeachy was reared on his present farm where he has always resided. He was educated in the high school of Winnebago and took a course of instruction at the Agricultural Experimental Station connected with the Wisconsin State University at Madison, Wis. He has made a success of his farming and is one of the leading men of his township. All of the buildings now standing on his place were erected by him, and in addition to the 134 acres of the homestead he owns eighty acres of fine productive land adjoining on section 9. He is an active member of the Presbyterian church of Winnebago of which he served on the board of trustees for six years. A Mason in high standing he belongs to Winnebago Lodge No. 745, A. F. & A. M., and Winnebago Chapter No. 24, R. A. M. Mr. McGeachy has held various local offices in the township and in politics he is a Republican.

McGREGOR, Andrew. It is remarkable how many of the substantial men of Winnebago County who are now living retired at Rockford, made their money and attained their prominence as farmers. The tilling of the soil in a locality like this proves profitable if a man is willing to work and save during his years of activity so that in his declining ones he can take his comfort and ease. Such a man is Andrew McGregor, one of the retired farmers of Rockford. He was born at Edinburg, Scotland, February 12, 1835, a son of Thomas and Isabella McGregor, the latter of whom died in Scotland. In 1845 the father came to the United States looking for a suitable permanent location, and about one year after his arrival, he returned to Scotland, not being satisfied with what he found.

Andrew McGregor attended the common schools of Edinburg, Scotland, and when seventeen years old he began an apprenticeship as a machinist in his native city, but after working for a few months, went to Glasgow, Scotland, where he continued to work at his trade until 1856, when, with his father and three of his father's children, he came to the United States and located at Madison, Ind. There he began as a machinist and engineer, and later he became a stationary engineer, working in Indiana and Kentucky. His peaceful operations were interrupted by the Civil war, and he enlisted in Company E, Third Indiana Volunteer Cavalry, at Madison, Ind., on August 22, 1861, and was sent to Washington, D. C., where he was placed in Hooker's Division in the Army of the Potomac. Mr. McGregor was in the following engagements: Poolsville, September 8, 1862; Cotocton Mountain, September 13, 1862; Middletown, September 13, 1862; South Mountain, September 14, 1862; Antietam, September 17, 1862; Martinsburg, October 2, 1862; Union, November 2, 1862; Upperville, November 3, 1862; Barbers Crossroads, November 5 and 14, 1862; Little Washington, December 10, 1862; Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862; Beverly Ford, April 15, 1863, and June 9, 1863; Upperville, June 21, 1863; Gettysburg, July 1, 1863; Williamsport, July 6, 1863; Boonsboro, July 8, 1863; Funkstown, July 10, 1863; Brandy Station, August 1, 1863; Culpepper, September 13, 1863; Benton Station, August 24, 1863, and thirty skirmishes. Although once taken prisoner, in ten minutes he managed to escape, and he received his honorable discharge in August, 1864.

After his discharge, Mr. McGregor returned to Madison, Ind., and a few days later came to Rockford to visit his brother William, who had been here for many years. So well was he suited with conditions that he began working in Thompson's Agricultural Implement Works as a machinist, and so continued until he bought a farm in Byron Township, Ogle County, Ill., and lived upon it from 1866 to 1901, when he retired, in the meanwhile improving it to a considerable extent. He rented his farm in April of that year, and bought ten acres on Cory's Bluff, this county, where he was engaged

in gardening until 1910. In that year he moved to Rockford and bought a handsome residence on Elm street, which has since continued to be his home.

Mr. McGregor has the following children: Thomas, who lives at Dubuque, Iowa, is a Presbyterian minister; William, who resides in Ogle County, Ill.; Elizabeth, who is her father's housekeeper; Rachel, who is Mrs. Laverne Cole of 2122 W. State street, Rockford; Nannie, who died at the age of two years; and Andrew, who lives at Stanbaugh, Mich. Mrs. McGregor, whose maiden name was Rachel Bishop, died December 31, 1912. Mr. McGregor belongs to the First Presbyterian Church of Rockford. He is a Republican and while living in Ogle County he held a number of the township offices. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., holds his membership and benefits from his interest in it.

McHUGH, William F., of the McHugh Brothers Machine & Tool Company, with residence at No. 210 Rockton avenue, and place of business at No. 111 S. Water street, is one of the reliable business men of Rockford. He was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, April 7, 1886. There he attended the grade and high schools, being graduated from the latter. He then started to work as a cash boy in the dry goods store of H. & S. Pogue Company, remaining with this concern for three years. Having gained some knowledge of business methods, he began learning the machinist trade with the Hall Safe & Lock Works, and was with them for some time, later working in several machine shops. In the spring of 1912 he came to Rockford and went with Barber & Coleman, remaining with that firm until the spring of 1913. At that time he and his brother founded their present business, which has been developed in a healthy and steady manner, and is now a very large and profitable one. They contract for and manufacture special machinery, tools, dies, jigs and fixtures, and execute all kinds of jobbing work in their line.

On January 8, 1914, Mr. McHugh was married at Newport, Ky., to Ruth Weingartner of that place. Mr. and Mrs. McHugh have a son, William F., who was born October 31, 1914. Mr. McHugh belongs to St. Mary's Catholic Church. In politics he is independent, making his own selection of candidates. A man of trained skill, and excellent judgment, he has forged to the front, and today occupies an enviable position among those in his line at Rockford.

McMAHON, Hugh, whose years of useful endeavor are now crowned with well deserved ease, is one of the highly respected men of Rockford. He was born in County Armagh, Ireland, January 6, 1846, a son of John and Ann (Mullen) McMahon. These parents had twelve children, but the only surviving one is Hugh. The father died in 1847, and in 1852 Hugh McMahon came to Rockford. His mother died in 1857, and he then went to live with a sister in Burritt Town-

ship. There he worked on a farm and attended the district schools.

On August 5, 1862, Hugh McMahon enlisted in Company A, Ninetieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry at Rockford for service during the Civil war, and was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee. During his long service he participated in twenty-six battles, including that of Missionary Ridge. On November 26, 1864, he was made fourth sergeant, and served as such until his honorable discharge June 5, 1865. Returning to Winnebago County, after participating in the grand review at Washington, D. C., he spent eighteen months farming in Burritt Township, and then coming to Rockford was employed for a year in the gas house. He then was in a draying business until appointed to carry the mail from the railroad to the postoffice. After some time he purchased a farm in Burritt Township and operated it until 1903, when he returned to Rockford and was appointed a rural free delivery mail carrier, a position he held until November 10, 1914, when he resigned, and since then has lived retired at No. 318 Rockton avenue.

On February 28, 1868, Mr. McMahon married (first) Ellen Barns, born in County Kilkenny, Ireland. She died October 27, 1878, leaving the following children: John, who lives at Rockford; James, who lives at Seward, Ill.; and George P., who lives at Rockford. On April 15, 1880, Mr. McMahon married (second) Catherine E. Doyle, who died January 29, 1914. She was born in Ireland, a daughter of Timothy and Elizabeth Doyle, who came to Rockford in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. McMahon had two children, namely: Charles H., who lives with his father; and Mary E., who was born December 17, 1882, died August 22, 1914. For eleven years she was an efficient public school teacher.

Mr. McMahon belongs to St. Mary's Catholic Church. He served as a justice of the peace for sixteen years in Burritt Township, being elected on the Democratic ticket. He belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters, to the Knights of Columbus, and to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and is as highly regarded in these organizations as he is by the public at large.

MEAD, Darius R. The Mead family is a well known one at Rockford, although the progenitor, Darius R. Mead was not a resident of the city, he passing away before his widow and children came here. However, as many of his qualities are inherited by his descendants it is but proper that a record of his life appear in a work dealing with Winnebago County people. Darius R. Mead was born at Meadville, Pa., in December, 1832, a son of Darius and Sarah (Logne) Mead, natives of Connecticut who came to Meadville, Pa., which was named after the paternal grandfather, David Mead.

Darius R. Mead was a man of intelligence, and sterling worth. In young manhood he went to Galena, Ill., later moved to Chicago where he died in 1878. He was identified with the business life of Chicago from 1858 to 1878, a lumber merchant, holding large interests.

The marriage of Darius R. Mead and Abigail C. Spare took place at Galena, Ill. She was born at Galena in 1837, a daughter of James and Ruth (Titcomb) Spare, natives of Boston, Mass., who became pioneers of Galena, Ill. Mrs. Mead was graduated in the first class sent out from Rockford College, in 1854. Her death occurred February 1, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Mead became the parents of the following children: F. W. Mead, Tucson, Arizona; Hattie L., who is Mrs. Leon P. Sykes of Wilmette, Ill.; Ruth Titcomb, who lives at Rockford; Marian I., who is Mrs. R. J. Sensor of Rockford; D. Ray Mead, who also lives in Rockford; Gertrude, who is Mrs. Dr. D. E. Waterbury of Chicago; and George Wilson, who lives at Grand Rapids, Wis.

MELLEN, Charles H., whose connection with Winnebago County was of such a nature as to entitle him to a prominent place in a history of this section, was of Scotch-Irish descent and he inherited many of the sterling characteristics of these nations. His great-grandfather, Jeremiah Mellen, came to the American colonies in 1750, settling at Conway, N. H., where he engaged in farming, residing there until his death. Jeremiah Mellen, Jr., grandfather of Charles H. Mellen, who in 1821 settled at Mottville, Onondaga County, N. Y., became an extensive manufacturer of woollens at that place, and there lived until his death at the age of sixty-three years. He was a captain of militia. He married Elizabeth Lindsey, and they had eight children, four sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to maturity.

Erastus Mellen, son of Jeremiah Mellen, Jr., and father of Charles H. Mellen, was born in New Hampshire in 1800, and became a prosperous farmer of Cayuga County, N. Y. In 1874 he came to Winnebago County, Ill., and lived in retirement at Winnebago until his death in 1890, when he was ninety years old. He married Sarah Mandeville, who was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., who bore him seven children. A sketch of Erastus Mellen and his wife is to be found elsewhere in this work.

Charles H. Mellen, the third child of Erastus and Sarah (Mandeville) Mellen, was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., December 11, 1829, and there grew to manhood. In 1854 he came to Winnebago County, and for the following three or four years he rented land from his cousin, John Waldron, in Rockford Township. He then settled at Creston, Ogle County, Ill., and purchased about 200 acres of prairie land upon which he placed all the improvements, including the buildings. This he sold in 1876 and then located at Winnebago, where he embarked in a drug business as a member of the firm of Grip-pen & Mellen. Within two years he again purchased a farm, one of eighty acres, near the village of Winnebago, and selling his drug business, moved on that property. He developed it into a model place and it continued to be his home until he retired. In 1900, however, he moved back to Winnebago, where he died February 19, 1912, aged eighty-three years. In the

meanwhile, in 1878, he had bought 640 acres of land in Nebraska, and this property is now owned by his children.

Charles H. Mellen was married September 25, 1859, to Annis St. John, who was born at Brutus, Cayuga County, N. Y., May 12, 1840. She was a daughter of Lorston and Mary Ann (Pollock) St. John, natives of New York and Connecticut, respectively, and pioneers of Ogle County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Mellen became the parents of three children: Elmer E.; Elida, who is the wife of Harry B. Jilson, of Rockford; and Clarence W., who is the publisher of the *Winnebago Reflector*, a weekly newspaper. Mr. Mellen was a progressive and public spirited man in his day, and an active member and supporter of the Presbyterian church. In politics he was a staunch Republican.

MELLEN, Clark, who is living retired at Winnebago, is of Scotch lineage, three brothers, Jeremiah, David and another whose name is unknown, having come to the American colonies in 1750, from Scotland. The youngest brother was killed soon after arrival, so that his name has been lost. The name was originally spelled "MacMillin," but was changed to Mellen about 1800. David settled at Boston, Mass. Jeremiah is the progenitor of the branch that settled at Conway, Mass., residing there until his death about 1800. His son, Jeremiah, grandfather of Clark Mellen, located at Mottville, Onondago County, N. Y., in 1821, where he engaged in the manufacture of clothing. He was also a captain of militia and lived at Mottville until his death in 1828, at the age of sixty-three years. He had six children who grew to maturity, namely: Lucius, Erastus, Jeremiah, Elbridge G., Chloe and Nancy. Both daughters died in young womanhood of typhoid fever, while the sons all lived to be old men. The wife of Jeremiah Mellen was Elizabeth Lindsey.

Erastus Mellen, son of Jeremiah and father of Clark Mellen, prior to his retirement in 1865, was for many years a prominent agriculturist of Cayuga County, N. Y. In 1874 he came to Winnebago County, Ill., and here resided until his death in 1890, when ninety years old. He married Sarah Mandeville, who bore him eight children, namely: Clark; Augustine, deceased; Charles, deceased, who came from Cayuga County, N. Y., to Winnebago County, and located first at Creston, Ogle County, in 1854, being there engaged in farming until 1876, when he became a druggist at Winnebago, two years later going to Nebraska, where he spent three years. On his return he purchased 700 acres of land, selling it at a profit, and then bought eighty acres in Winnebago Township, near the village of that name, there living until he retired in 1900 to move to Winnebago, and there died, February 19, 1912, aged eighty-three years; Mary; Eliza; Adoniram Judson, who settled in Ogle County, Ill., in 1857, and there farmed until he came to Winnebago Township, this county, to continue farming until his retirement in 1902, at which time he located in the village of Winne-

bago, that continuing his home until March, 1908, when he went to Rockford, and there died in 1908, aged seventy-three years; William, who was a farmer of Ogle County, was killed at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain during the Civil war; Albert A., who was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., November 12, 1843, and for two years was engaged in a grocery business at Palmyra, N. Y., but came to Winnebago County in 1868, spending four years on a farm in Winnebago Township, owned by his brother, and for two years he was with his father in the village of the same name, when he embarked in a hardware business with W. H. Patton, and conducted it for two years, but in the fall of 1878 located at Fairmount, Neb., and engaged in a hardware business until 1888, when he went to Eureka Springs and spent fifteen years in Arkansas, on account of ill health, since which time he has made his home at Winnebago, although he makes occasional trips to these springs for treatment.

Clark Mellen was born in Onondago County, N. Y., March 14, 1825. For four months during the Civil war he served as a member of the Ninety-third New York Volunteer Infantry. In 1875 he located at Manchester, Iowa, and embarked in a creamery business, operating seven creameries for eighteen months, in partnership with John Stewart. At the Centennial at Philadelphia, in 1876, this firm took first prize for their product, receiving a gold and bronze medal, and diploma for the best butter made in the United States. Mr. Mellen has these medals and diploma, and regards them as among his most valued possessions. In 1877 he erected at Winnebago the first creamery in Illinois, and he continued to operate this and other creameries up to the time of his retirement in 1894, having as a partner during sixteen years, Marcus Swan. Prior to coming west, he was a canvasser and lumberman, so has had a varied experience.

In 1857 Mr. Mellen was married to Betsey Ann McNeal, who died three years later. He is one of the oldest residents of Winnebago, and bids fair to reach the century mark. He is most highly respected and no history of Winnebago County would be complete without his record.

MELLEN, Elmer E., a prominent merchant of Winnebago, Ill., and senior member of the firm of Mellen & Armstrong, grocers, was born at Rochelle, Ogle County, Ill., July 19, 1862, a son of Charles H. and Annis (St. John) Mellen, being of the fifth generation from Jeremiah Mellen, the progenitor of this branch of the family in America. Charles H. Mellen was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., December 11, 1829. In 1859 he was married to Annis St. John, who was born at Brutus, Cayuga County, N. Y., May 12, 1840.

Elmer E. Mellen grew to manhood in Ogle and Winnebago counties, having accompanied his parents to the latter in 1876. He secured his education in the district schools of Ogle County and the high school of the village of

Winnebago. He has been a resident of Winnebago ever since, his business career beginning when he engaged as a clerk for M. M. Swan, a grocer of Winnebago. After eight years of grocery experience with this employer, Mr. Mellen embarked in business for himself with Mr. Armstrong, and these partners conduct a thoroughly modern store in every respect.

On February 22, 1894, Mr. Mellen was married to Minnie A. Riley, a daughter of William and Charlotte (Milnes) Riley, natives of England and pioneers of Winnebago Township, where they settled in 1849. By this marriage there were three children, namely: Mabeth E., Bernice S. and Charles Sumner.

Mr. Mellen is popular as a merchant, commanding the confidence and respect of the community in general because of his uprightness and square dealing. He owns and occupies a beautiful residence on Main street. The Methodist church holds his membership. Fraternally he is a member of Winnebago Lodge No. 745, A. F. & A. M. In politics he is a Republican.

MEYERS, John. The fact that the majority of people find, in raising a suitable monument over the grave of a departed loved one, some alleviation of their grief and proof of their respect for his memory, has led a number of expert men, with artistic ideas, to engage in the business of providing these monuments. One of them at Rockford, who is a recognized leader in his line, is John Meyers.

Mr. Meyers was born in Bavaria, Germany, November 23, 1845, and was there educated and taught the stone cutting and stone polishing trade. His parents died in Germany, but he came to the United States in 1867. He stopped at St. Charles, Ill., until 1872, there learning to cut and polish marble. In January, 1872, he went to Chicago and worked there until March, 1874, when he came to Rockford and worked here for Mr. Trigg for thirteen years. He was then with the Illinois Central Railroad for a year cutting stone for use in its bridge construction work. Mr. Meyers then started into his present business at No. 113 S. Madison street, where he has since remained. He enjoys a large patronage, and his work is generally admitted to be very artistic and appropriate.

In March, 1867, before he left Germany, Mr. Meyers was married to Walburga Sier, born in Germany, and they became the parents of the following children: John, Annie, Lizzie and Charles, who are all deceased; Lillie, who is Mrs. Port DeLong, of Rockford; Mamie, who is Mrs. John Chanson, of Rockford; Anthony, of Rockford, who married Esther Carlson; and Rose and Minnie, who are both deceased. Mr. Meyers attends the Lutheran church. In politics he is independent. He belongs to Social Lodge No. 140, I. O. O. F., and Rockford Lodge No. 67, Owls, and the Rockford Germania Society, of which he has been a trustee for a number of years. A man of trained experience, Mr. Meyers understands his work thoroughly, and

has honestly earned the position he holds among his business associates.

MILLER, Anson S., page 661.

MILLER, August. Rockford numbers among its most reliable citizens many men who came from Sweden, and locating in this city, or its vicinity, have developed into citizens of reliability and responsibility. One of these men is August Miller, proprietor of the finest shoe store on Seventh street. He was born in Smolan, Sweden, March 27, 1863, a son of Johannas and Christina (Lydeg) Miller. The father was born and educated at Smolan, where he became a stone mason and later a contractor. In 1881 he left his native land, locating after his arrival in the United States in Iowa, where he followed his trade at different points. Later he went to Lake County, Mich., where he became identified with the lumber interests and continued his operations there for three years. Later he returned to his native land and there died in 1906. The mother survives and makes her home in Sweden. She came to Rockford in 1910, to visit her relatives, but returned to Sweden, preferring that land to this.

August Miller came to the United States in 1881, having spent his years previously at Smolan, where he was educated. He lived in Iowa after coming to this country, being a stonemason for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad for a year, then went to Lake County, Mich., and was engaged with W. D. Wing & Co., who were operating large sawmills and clearing timber land. So competent was he that he was made foreman of a gang building roads through forests so as to handle the output of timber. He remained with this firm for seven years, and then went to Manistee, Mich., where he engaged in a shoe business with his brothers-in-law, forming the G. A. Johnson Shoe Co., and they operated this business for two years. Mr. Miller then came to Rockford and in 1909, with A. W. Norbeck, engaged in a shoe business of which he later became sole proprietor, and he continues to conduct the store alone.

In 1886 Mr. Miller married Miss Anna M. Johnson, a daughter of F. L. Johnson, of Lake County, Mich. Mrs. Miller is of Swedish descent. Mr. Miller belongs to the Swedish Mission Church and has been its treasurer for eleven years.

MILLER, Cyrus F., page 662.

MILLER, Henry Herbert, once a well known agriculturalist in Winnebago County, is now deceased, having passed away after a useful life. He was cut off in the midst of his activities, but, although his span of life was comparatively brief, he did his duty as he saw it, and exerted a strong influence for good in his community. His operations were carried on in Guilford Township. He was born at Berlin, Germany, June 20, 1868, a son of August Miller.

In 1888 Henry H. Miller came to Winnebago County and rented land until 1901, when he bought 196 acres of land in Guilford Township. The place was partly improved at that time, and he worked hard to add to its value. He passed away December 5, 1908. Since his death his widow has rented all but a few acres which she cultivates as a garden.

On December 21, 1890, Mr. Miller was married to Mary Retzlaff, born in Guilford Township, a daughter of Charles and Hannah (Ollman) Retzlaff, natives of Germany, who came to Guilford Township and here bought a farm. The father died in 1906, and the mother resides on the homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Miller had the following children: Minnie, who is Mrs. William Lindell, of Owen Township, has these children: Harold, Clarence, Fay, Everett, Marion and Raymond; Ruby, who married Roy Preston, resides in Owen Township; and May and Carl, who are at home. Mrs. Miller attended the Marsh School of Guilford Township, while Mr. Miller was educated in the schools of his native land. The Miller family is a well known one in Winnebago County, and its members are justly rated among the substantial people of this section.

MILLER, Horace, page 661.

MILLER, Orrin, page 662.

MILLER, William W., whose foresight and confidence in the future of Rockford led him to profit very materially, was during his mature years one of the substantial men of Winnebago County. He was born at Mt. Morris, Livingston County, N. Y., May 13, 1835, a son of Horace and Hannah (Clark) Miller, natives of Connecticut and the Mohawk Valley, N. Y. They were married in New York, and in 1837 came to Winnebago County, Ill., buying 1,000 acres of land in New Milford Township. The father started improving his land, having settled on his farm in 1839. A man of consequence, he served in the state legislature, and being a pioneer with advanced ideas he aided very materially in advancing the county's interests.

In February, 1859, William W. Miller was married to Jennie Phillips, born at Plattsville, Wis., October 6, 1839, a daughter of Henry B. and Lucinda (Sloan) Phillips, natives of New York and Kentucky, respectively. The father went to Galena, Ill., in 1832, served as a soldier during the Black Hawk war, and was in the battle of Bad Axe when Black Hawk was captured. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were married in Plattville, Wis. Their children were as follows: Lonie P., who died at the age of four and one-half years; Charles Lester, who died at the age of two years; Ella G., who is Mrs. R. P. Whipple of Minneapolis, Minn.; Elmer E., who died at the age of four and one-half years; Mabelle J., who is Mrs. Fred Carrico of No. 713 Ashland avenue, Rockford, has two children: William and Elizabeth.

When his father divided his property up among

his children, William W. Miller received 250 acres as his share, and he conducted it for seven years, and then selling it, moved to the east part of Rockford and bought fourteen acres of land, which he divided into lots and sold or erected flat buildings upon them, the latter now being the property of Mrs. Miller. All of the other lots have modern residences on them. In addition, Mr. Miller owned several farms in different parts of Winnebago County, and oversaw them all. His death occurred December 29, 1907. During 1882 he served in the city council for the old Sixth Ward, and he was also a county supervisor, being a man of consequence. In politics he was a Republican. The Centennial Methodist Church held his membership, and he served it as steward for many years. Mrs. Miller is corresponding secretary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society of that church, and she also belongs to the Woman's Club of Rockford.

MITCHELL, John W., one of the most public-spirited citizens of Winnebago County, whose efforts have ever been directed towards a betterment of existing conditions and a general moral uplift, resides at No. 124 Sunset avenue, Rockford. He was born at Clarksville, now Glen Gardner, N. J., January 6, 1844, a son of George A. and Lydia (Norcross) Mitchell of New Jersey.

John W. Mitchell attended the common schools of his native place. With other patriotic men of his day, he responded to his country's call for service in the Civil war, and enlisted in August, 1862, at Glen Gardner, N. J., for nine months' service in Company K, Thirty-first New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to guard duty at Washington, D. C. Later the regiment was transferred to the Army of the Potomac, and Mr. Mitchell participated in the battle of Fredericksburg, and that of Chancellorsville, after which the regiment started against Gen. Lee. On July 1, 1863, Mr. Mitchell was honorably discharged together with his two brothers who were in the same company.

Returning from the war, Mr. Mitchell remained at his old home until 1868, when he came to Winnebago County, and rented land for six years, then bought 193 acres, and also 100 acres adjoining in Ogle County, Ill. He farmed until 1891, when he moved to Winnebago and there he resided until 1907, when he came to Rockford, where he now lives retired. He owns a beautiful home on Sunset avenue.

On July 2, 1864, Mr. Mitchell married (first) Sarah A. Stryker, born in German Valley, Morris County, N. J., a daughter of Peter and Mary (Rulleson) Stryker, of New Jersey, and they had the following children: Stryker P., who lives in Winnebago Township, married Ella Schoonmaker and they have three children, Homer, Ollie and John; Mary L., who married Robert Starnar of Dows, Wright County, Iowa, and they have one daughter, Otella, who married George Strowbridge, and they have three children, Starnar, Mitchell and an infant; Eliza-

beth E., who married Edward Sheldon, of Rockford, and they have two children, Nelson and Eva; the latter married Calvin Evans; and John F., who is of Winnebago Township, married Blanche Evans, and they have a son and daughter, Howard and Laota. The first Mrs. Mitchell died March 21, 1891. On September 16, 1892, Mr. Mitchell married Catherine Martinis, who died April 14, 1907. On November 14, 1907, Mr. Mitchell married (third) Harriet A. (Atwood) Tole, born at Cincinnati, Ohio, April 22, 1840, a daughter of Hiram and Ann (Clemens) Atwood, natives of Rutland, Vt., and Massachusetts, respectively. She was the widow of Thomas Tole, born in New York, who was a contractor at Rockford for some years, and died here February 13, 1901, having had the following children: John, who resides at Rockford, married Nellie Winchester, and they have three children, Arthur, Dorothy and John; Sarah, who married Fred Savage of Rockford, and they have one daughter, Harriet; Robert, who lives with Mr. Mitchell; Alice, who is Mrs. Robert Kelley, of Rockford; and Clayton, who resides at Rockford. Mr. Tole enlisted for service during the Civil war, at Dixon, Ill., in the Thirtieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in 1861, and served until the close of the war. Two of his brothers enlisted with him and died in the service. While living at Rockford, Mr. Tole served as a member of the city council two terms. Mrs. Mitchell attended the Rockford High School and is a very well educated lady. She belongs to the Woman's Relief Corps, and is one of the most efficient charity workers of Rockford and is deeply interested in the G. A. R., both of her husbands having served their country as soldiers.

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell are members of Grace Methodist Church. He has been on its official board since 1875. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., holds his membership and he has done much to advance its interests. He helped to organize the Winnebago Township Memorial Association and served it as president for twelve years. There was a monument erected in that township by this association in memory of veterans of the Civil war. A Republican, he has held a number of township offices. For six years Mr. Mitchell was president of the school board and was a director of it for nine years.

MOORE, T. B., whose agricultural success has come from earnest and intelligent endeavor and the practice of scientific methods, is one of the leading farmers of Roscoe Township. He was born in Jefferson County, Wis., July 14, 1849, a son of Stephen and Sarah (Waite) Moore. Stephen Moore, and his wife were both born at Bugbrook, England, where they were married. At an early day they set sail for the United States in the old Ashburton steamer, on her last trip, and upon arrival at New York City, left for Milwaukee, Wis. There Stephen Moore established himself in a meat business, but later moved to Waukesha, Wis., where he was engaged in the same line for a short time, leaving

that place for Watertown, Wis., where he not only conducted a butchering establishment but also dealt in live stock for a number of years, developing a large business. Later he bought a farm on which he kept his live stock. A few years later he retired, and died in 1864. His wife survived and moved with her family to Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, Ill., where she died March 17, 1881. Both she and husband were members of the Baptist Church. He was a Republican in politics.

T. B. Moore was educated at Watertown, Wis., and learned the essentials of farming on his father's farm. Although himself too young to serve during the Civil War, he had two elder brothers who were soldiers during that conflict. After the father's death, T. B. Moore moved with the rest of the family to Roscoe Township, this county. He was afterwards engaged in a hardware business at Lesueur, Minn., but after two years returned to Roscoe Township, where he bought a farm, now owning 250 acres of very fine farm land. His farm is recognized as one of the best in the county. In addition to farming, Mr. Moore is a stockman and feeder. Fraternally he is a Mason and Modern Woodman. In politics he is a Republican and for twenty-one years he has been a member of the school board. The Congregational Church holds his membership.

In 1877 Mr. Moore was married to Miss Emma Fassett, a daughter of Luther and Amanda (Bates) Fassett, and they have one son, Frank F., who married Miss Claire Runyard, a daughter of Robert and Ella (Ketcham) Runyard. Frank F. Moore and wife had four children as follows: Emma Fassett, Eliza Beth, Frances Claire, who died June 4, 1912, and Robert Stephen.

Luther Fassett, father of Mrs. Moore, was born at Cambridge, Rutland County, Vt., while Mrs. Fassett was born at Berry, N. Y. In 1833 Mr. Fassett came to New York state, and there lived until 1853, but in that year he settled in Roscoe Township, this county, and bought the farm now the property of Mr. Moore, this continuing his home until his death in 1895, when he was eighty-one years old. His wife died in 1888, aged sixty-six years. For a number of years Mr. Fassett was a school director and he was a man of consequence in his neighborhood. Mr. Fassett lived to see many changes since he first came to Roscoe Township. When he and his family first made the trip, the only means of conveyance was a wagon from Chicago to the new home.

MOORE, William Henry, founder and owner of the City Mills and Light Plant of Rockton, and one of the sound men of this place, has had excellent constructive ideas regarding his civic duties, and put them into effect. He was born in Beloit Township, Rock County, Wis., October 11, 1869, a son of Thomas and Julia (Seatus) Moore, natives of England and New York state, respectively. Thomas Moore was brought from England to Chicago by his mother when he was

four years old. He was married in Wisconsin, and became a farmer in Beloit Township, Rock County, Wis. During the Civil war he served as a soldier in the Union army, belonging to Company F, Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and his period of service extended over four years and seven months. He participated in eighteen battles and made an honorable record for himself. His death occurred in 1903 when he was fifty-nine years old. His widow lives at Beloit, Wis.

William Henry Moore attended the public schools of his township, and resided on a farm with his parents until his marriage, which occurred September 23, 1896, when he was united with Nellie V. Gaton, born in Roscoe Township, this county, a daughter of George J. and Martha (Starmer) Gayton. There are no children of this marriage.

Mr. Moore rented land in Beloit Township, Rock County, Wis., after his marriage, and operated it until November, 1904, when he bought a feed and grist mill at Rockton and founded the Rockton electric light plant under the name of the City Mills and Light Plant, which he continues to operate. The Baptist Church of Rockton holds his membership, and he has been a trustee of it since 1909. In politics he is a Republican, and stands high with all who know him.

MORGAN, Abiram, page 645.

MORRELL, John, page 649.

MORRIS, Harrow J., whose activities have led him into different lines of business, is one of the enterprising young men of Winnebago County. He was born in Wisconsin December 8, 1894, and in 1900 his home town was totally destroyed by fire. His parents are Henry and Mary (Field) Morris, the former born at Lake Mills, Wis., June 8, 1870, and the latter at Waterloo, Wis., September 13, 1872. The grandparents on the paternal side of the house came from Scotland and Ireland, respectively. The maternal grandparents, John and Mary Field, were natives of England and New York State, respectively. All are now deceased.

Henry Morris, father of Harrow J. Morris, was a raiser of high grade stock for some years, but later located at Pecatonica, where he became foreman for the Wisconsin Canned Milk Company, of that place. The children born to Henry and Mary Morris were: Ray E., who was born May 11, 1890; Myron, who was born June 2, 1892; and H. J., who is the youngest. Henry Morris has a brother, William, who lives near New Rockford, N. Dak.; and a sister, Mrs. Mary Norton, who lives at Milwaukee, Wis. Mrs. Morris has two sisters: Ida Field, who lives at Los Angeles, Cal.; and Mrs. Lina Rass, who lives at Port Huron, Mich.

Harrow J. Morris was educated in the grade schools of Pecatonica, Ill., and the Burlington, (Wis.), High school, and he took a commercial course at the business college at that point. He

then was employed in a basket factory as a nailer, and also as a moulder in a brass factory, at Burlington, Wis. Still later he learned the installation of automatic telephones. Mr. Morris has attained to considerable distinction as a boxer, in Wisconsin and some of the more western states, and enjoys athletics. At one time, for about eight months, he was pilot on the Mississippi River steamboat, Sidney, which plied between St. Louis, Mo., and St. Paul, Minn. His father owns 140 acres near Carlisle, Wis., and 300 acres in North Dakota, and Mr. Morris has had some experience on these big farms as an agriculturalist, but spends his vacations from work at Pecatonica with his parents.

MORSE, Charles S., whose business activities have now ceased, is at present one of the substantial retired residents of Rockford, although at one time he bore a busy part in developing this locality. He was born at Perlermo, in western Canada, August 31, 1845, a son of William K. and Levina (Smith) Morse.

The father was a native of New York state. In 1852 he and his wife drove with their possessions in wagons through to Rockford, Ill., and bought 200 acres of land in Winnebago County, that was unimproved. This he cultivated and farmed, and with the assistance of his five sons established and developed a large contracting and building business throughout the county. In 1859 he sold and went to Fayette County, Iowa, where he conducted a wagon and machine shop, being a first-class carpenter and mechanic. During one period of his life, with four companions, he went to Pike's Peak, Col., and then on to California, making the trip with oxen. He was in both Upper and Lower California, working as a mechanic until 1865, when he returned to Rockford and there rounded out his life. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: William, who is of Canada; Sardius, who is of Michigan; Benjamin, who is of Rockford; Salem and Cecelia, who are deceased; Tirzah, who is the widow of Gersham Woodworth, lives at Rockford; and Charles S.

Charles S. Morse when only thirteen years old bound himself out to learn the printing trade at West Union, Iowa, to receive in return for his services for a year his board and clothes. For the following two years he received wages. As he could he secured educational training in the common schools. On July 16, 1862, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company H, Eighteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and saw service in Missouri chasing bushwhackers, but was discharged on account of disability December 29, 1862. After his discharge he came to Rockford and began farming by the month and also worked for different manufacturers, finally going into farming on his own account. In 1891 he left the farm to become engineer and operator of the steam-roller for the city of Rockford. In 1914 he retired and now makes his home at his handsome residence on Jackson street. In addition to this, Mr. Morse owns other property which he rents out. In politics

he is a Republican. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. holds his membership.

On May 2, 1903, Charles S. Morse was married to Mrs. Henrietta (Blunk) Hall, widow of Friend C. Hall. There are two sons in the family, born to Mrs. Morse by a former marriage, she having been married three times. Her parents lived in Guilford Township, where they were farming people, but later moved to Rockford, where they died.

MORSING, Paul Philip, not only is one of the leading photographers of his part of the state, but a man of a high order of artistic ability, and his work bears the stamp of originality and perfect workmanship. He is very conveniently located at No. 427 Seventh street, Rockford, and his studio is visited by the most particular people of city and vicinity. Mr. Morsing was born at Upsala, Sweden, January 29, 1871, a son of Gustof Napoleon and Ebba (Dahlberg) Morsing, the former born in 1827, and the latter May 14, 1845. The father was an officer of the civil engineer corps in the Swedish army, with rank of major. Although pensioned off at the age of sixty-five years, he was reinstated as chief of engineers, as it was found that his services were necessary to the maintenance of the high standard he had raised.

Paul Philip Morsing attended the common, a private and a high school in his native place, and spent two years of that period studying photography. During his boyhood he spent much of the summer months in the woods, and always has been interested in artistic things. When he was seventeen years old, he came to the United States, and secured employment at Chicago with a photographer, receiving \$6 per week at the start. His proficiency resulted in successive raises in salary. In 1901 he came to Rockford, but after a year went to Elgin, Ill., and opened a studio, but in 1909 he returned to Rockford where he has since remained. During the period between 1888 and 1894 he spent a year in Sweden and operated a studio at Kalmar.

Mr. Morsing was married (first) to Alfreda Borg, and they had three children, one of whom died. On May 15, 1909, he was married (second) to Charlotte Ingeborg Nilsson, who was born in Dalhsland, Sweden, April 5, 1873, a daughter of John Fred Nilsson and Hedrick S. (Larson) Nilsson. Mrs. Morsing is a graduated doctor of Swedish massage. The children of Mr. Morsing are as follows: Ebba Olivia, who was born April 30, 1897; Wilborg Hildur Lydia, who was born September 26, 1899, died February 29, 1904; Royal Paul Napoleon, who was born February 13, 1902; and Melba Ottolina, who was born November 27, 1911.

In 1905 Mr. Morsing was made a Mason and has since continued in good standing with that order. He was an Odd Fellow, but is not at present connected with that fraternity, but belongs to the W. O. W., which he joined in 1915; the Germania Singing Society, which he joined in 1911, and the Viking Society, which he joined in 1911. In religious matters he

belongs to the Swedish Zion Lutheran Church. A Republican, he favors the extension of universal suffrage to women.

MOULTHROP, Levi, page 643.

MUDGE, Jeremiah C., whose building operations while he was actively engaged as a carpenter and contractor of Rockford, assumed large proportions, is one of the substantial retired residents of the city. He was born at Gilmington, Belknap County, N. H., January 19, 1828, a son of George and Hannah (Allen) Mudge.

George Mudge was born in Belknap County, N. H., and in 1830 left New Hampshire for New York state with his family, locating in Bennington Township, twenty miles east of Buffalo, where he engaged in farming until 1834, when he came further west, and rented some wild land in Sandusky County, Ohio, thirty miles east of Toledo. He joined his father, Richard Mudge, at this point, the latter having entered land from the government and on it built two log houses, with the help of friendly Indians and three white men. After some years, during which period Richard Mudge died, in Indiana, the family moved to the vicinity of Fort Wayne, Ind., and rented a farm upon which a log house was erected, and there the grandmother passed away. In 1893 the family came to Rockford, Ill., and rented a house in the south part of the town, and then built a home near Corey's Bluff. Two years after arrival George Mudge died, in 1895, of apoplexy. His wife survived until 1905, when she passed away, aged seventy years. The father was a Mason. In political faith he was a Republican, while the Methodist Church was his religious home.

Jeremiah C. Mudge was educated at Sandusky, Ohio, and afterward he taught school in Sandusky County for twenty-seven terms, among his schools being the same one in which he received his first instruction. During the summer months, while he was teaching school, Mr. Mudge worked as a farm hand. In 1863 he proved his patriotism by enlisting for service during the Civil war, in Company K, Fiftieth Ohio National Guards, formed in 1863, and following the election of officers, he was chosen captain of his company. The regiment was stationed at Johnston's Island, Sandusky Bay, guarding prisoners of war, and spent nine months at this point. At the close of the war, Mr. Mudge was honorably discharged, and returned home.

In 1869 Mr. Mudge moved to Fort Wayne, Ind., where he worked as a carpenter, having learned the rudiments of the trade from his grandfather, who was a millwright during his early days. In 1893 Mr. Mudge moved to Rockford and was recognized as one of the best mechanics in the city, and after branching out into a contracting business he built a number of Rockford's substantial business houses, as well as many of the fine residences of the city. In 1905, on account of failing health, he retired,

and while he is now eighty-seven years old, he enjoys excellent health, and takes a pride in his beautiful home at No. 1005 Haskell avenue.

In 1849 Mr. Mudge was married to Miss Abigail McNutt, a daughter of Calvin and Jane (Stults) McNutt, who passed away at Sandusky, Ohio, in 1858, having had two children, namely: John A., who died at Tiosa, Ind., in 1905; and Elvira, who is now Mrs. Briney, of Tiosa, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. McNutt were farming people and never left Ohio. In 1864 Mr. Mudge married (second) Miss Mary E. Cochrane, a daughter of John and Margaret (Patterson) Cochrane, of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Mudge passed away at Rockford in 1905, the mother of one daughter, Rosie A., who lives with her father. Mrs. Cochrane died at Rockford at the home of Mr. Mudge, and Mr. Cochrane died on his farm near Sandusky, Ohio. Mr. Mudge is a member of the Masonic fraternity. In politics he is a Republican. The First Presbyterian Church of Rockford holds his membership. A man of deep convictions, Mr. Mudge has always done what he has believed to be his full duty, and he can look back upon his life with contentment, knowing that he has accomplished much.

MULDOON, Rt. Rev. Peter James. The perplexities and problems, often difficult of solution, that enter into the life of every man, are usually of a personal character, pertaining to the immediate circle in which his interests are centered. In the solution of these his activities are enlisted and his energies are often taxed to their utmost capacity. However, weighty as they may be, their sum amounts to little when compared with the aggregation of responsibilities that repose in the duties of the dignitaries of such a mighty organization as the Roman Catholic Church. The profound, distinctive doctrines of this denomination have been cherished and perpetuated for ages by the individuals who have been particularly prepared for this great and important labor, and no more pious, zealous, scholarly, broad-minded and broadly-informed men can be found the world over than those chosen as bishops of the Roman Catholic Church. With heavy burdens, with great responsibilities, their influence is wide-spreading and their value to civilization is incalculable.

The Rt. Rev. Peter James Muldoon, Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Rockford, Ill., not only personifies the highest conception of Catholicism, but embodies in his personality the characteristics which attract man to his fellow-man, and which have taken Bishop Muldoon straight to the hearts and into the lives of his people.

Bishop Muldoon was born at Columbia, Tuolumne County, Cal., October 10, 1863, and is a son of John J. and Catharine (Coughlin) Muldoon, natives of Ireland, the father having been born in County Cavan and the mother in County Galway. John J. Muldoon was a young man when he emigrated to the United States and for a number of years followed contracting at Stockton, Cal., in the public schools of which city Peter J. Muldoon received his early education.

He was fourteen years old when he entered upon the classical and commercial course at the college at Saint Mary's, Ky., and when he was graduated from that institution, four years later, he began the two years' philosophical course at Saint Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, Md. He completed his studies with a four years' theological course at the same institution. Bishop Muldoon's ordination to the priesthood of the Roman Catholic Church occurred at Brooklyn, N. Y., December 18, 1886, under Bishop Loughlin, and his first appointment was as assistant pastor of Saint Pius' Parish, Chicago, where he remained for eighteen months in 1887 and 1888. In November of the latter year he was appointed Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Chicago and Secretary to his Grace Archbishop Feehan, and continued in these capacities until appointed, November 1, 1895, pastor of Saint Charles Borromeo's Parish, Saint Charles Church being situated at Twelfth and Cypress streets, Chicago.

On July 25, 1901, Bishop Muldoon was consecrated Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, and July 25, 1902, on the death of Archbishop Feehan, was appointed administrator of the Archdiocese of Chicago, acting in that capacity until the arrival of Archbishop Quigley, in March, 1903. Under Archbishops Feehan and Quigley, he acted as Vicar-General of the Archdiocese of Chicago, and September 23, 1908, was appointed the first Bishop of Rockford, Ill., taking possession of the See of Rockford December 15 of that year. The Diocese of Rockford comprises the twelve northwestern counties of the state of Illinois.

During the great Columbian Exposition, at Chicago, Bishop Muldoon held the secretaryship of the Chicago Catholic educational exhibit. He is actively interested in fraternal work, being state chaplain of the Knights of Columbus and of the Catholic Order of Foresters, and is also president of the Social Service Section of the Federation of Catholic Societies. A man of commanding stature and dignified appearance, Bishop Muldoon possesses also the charm of manner and wealth of humor which characterize those of true Irish lineage. A loving, kindly, compassionate friend, working zealously in God's garden of endeavor, into his every-day labors he brings the cheeriness that lifts the burdens from the oppressed and down-hearted and that strengthens the will and incites the efforts of the human souls whom God has placed in his affectionate charge.

MULLER, L. Fred, secretary and manager of the Union Dairy Company at No. 216 and 218 S. Church street, Rockford, is a man of sound judgment, wide experience and excellent business ability. He was born in Denmark, in 1871, a son of L. Carl and Meta (Hertel) Muller, both natives of Denmark. The father was a customs collector for fifty-six years. He died in 1911, at the age of seventy-eight years. The mother died in 1888, aged fifty-four years.

L. Fred Muller was reared and educated in

his native land, and began learning the carpenter trade when he was fourteen years old, continuing to work at it in Denmark until he attained his majority. Leaving for the United States, he reached here in time to secure employment on the World's Fair buildings during 1892 and 1893, and in 1894 went to West Virginia, where he worked at his trade. However, that same year he returned to Chicago and engaged with the Borden Milk Company, with which he remained until October 22, 1899, when he came to Rockford. Here he began to wholesale and retail condensed milk. Later he was able to interest some Rockford men in the production of sanitary milk, and on May 1, 1900, they formed the Union Dairy Company at No. 808 S. Fifth street, where they continued for four years. In 1904 they built the present building, which is one of the most modern and sanitary milk depots in Rockford. Mr. Muller was made the first secretary of the company and its manager, and has continued to hold these offices ever since, so it is largely due to his knowledge of the business and his conscientious attention to details which have resulted in the growth and development of the trade.

In 1898 Mr. Muller was married to Miss Margaret L. Tanner, a daughter of J. W. and Harriet (Corbett) Tanner. Mr. and Mrs. Muller have two children, namely: Meta Harriet, who was born July 28, 1899; and Joseph Percy, who was born September 18, 1901. Mr. Muller is a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner, and also is a member of the Odd Fellows and the Dainiche Brotherhood. He and his family belong to the English Lutheran Church of Rockford, to which they are generous contributors of time and money.

The production of sanitary milk has attracted the attention of physicians and scientists the world over, and those who understand such matters are willing to admit that nowhere are conditions more ideal than at the premises of the Union Dairy Company.

MURPHY, William Francis. Some men appear to be able to utilize their natural capacities to such excellent effect that they become useful citizens and prosperous along any lines they choose to follow. Such is the case with William Francis Murphy, one of the leading business men and officials of Rockford. He was born at Marengo, Ill., March 22, 1877, a son of James and Alice (Russell) Murphy. After completing his course in the Rockford public schools, Mr. Murphy was employed in the office of the dry goods establishment of Burnham & Son for eight months, and then was with Burr Bros., grocers, for five and one-half years. Following this he was in the cigar store owned by Lewis & Bros. for seven years, then spent one year on the road for the Globe Tobacco Company of Detroit, Mich. He then went in business for himself, buying out the business owned by a Mr. Revel and continuing it for four years, when he sold to Charles Sheldon. On February 7, 1914, he formed a partnership with Frank Fitzgerald in

an undertaking business, being located at No. 509 W. State street, Mr. Fitzgerald being a licensed undertaker. The firm employ both men and women attendants and everything is done to render efficient and satisfying service. During the Spanish-American war, Mr. Murphy enlisted in Company H, Third Illinois Infantry, and was promoted to the rank of corporal during the campaign in Porto Rico, he being in the thickest of the fight. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and much interested in the work of that fraternity.

On June 27, 1900, Mr. Murphy was married to Ella R. Raidy, a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Whalen) Raidy, and they have three children, namely: Fay Frances, Margaret Evelyn and Clare Ramona, all of whom are attending school. On April 15, 1913, Mr. Murphy was elected alderman of his ward, and his majority was the largest of anyone ever sent to the city council of Rockford. Mr. Murphy's success in life has come through his own efforts and is all the more commendable for this reason. He stands high with his associates, and is looked upon as one of the representative young men of Rockford.

MURTFELDT, William C. It is remarkable how many of the men who during the Civil war fought for their country with soldierly energy, when hostilities ended engaged in the peaceful pursuits of farming. Winnebago County has a number of these veterans who are either still engaged in agricultural operations, or who are now living retired, after many years of useful and profitable endeavor as farmers. Among these is William C. Murtfeldt, of Rockford. He was born at St. Louis, Mo., April 2, 1844, a son of Charles W. and Esther (Thorp) Murtfeldt, he born in Germany, and she in Onondaga County, N. Y. When he was sixteen years old, Charles W. Murtfeldt came to the United States, and landed in New York City, where later he married. His parents accompanied him to the new world, and as the father was a tailor, he learned that trade and worked at it. Later the two established a tailoring business at Natchez, Miss. From there Charles W. Murtfeldt moved to St. Louis, Mo., and established himself in a tailoring business, while his father conducted a stage line. Desiring land, Charles W. Murtfeldt moved to Marion Township, Ogle County, Ill., where he bought 340 acres of land, as valuable as any to be found in the county.

William C. Murtfeldt received unusual educational advantages as he not only attended the schools in his district, but the Rock River Seminary at Mount Morris, Ill., and the Rockford High school. He lived with his parents until he enlisted for service during the Civil war on August 9, 1862, in the Ninety-second Illinois Volunteer Mounted Infantry, and was with Wilder's Brigade of Mounted Infantry for a year when he was transferred to Henry Killpatrick's cavalry command. He was under fire sixty-three times, and participated in the battles of Chickamauga, Stone River, Resaca, Rawley,

and Jonesboro, and had a very narrow escape at the latter engagement, never being wounded, however, nor taken prisoner. The regiment was the first to reach Chattanooga and plant the Union flag on the old Crotchfield House. This regiment took part in Sherman's march to the sea and the campaign around Atlanta, and was discharged June 21, 1865.

Following his discharge, Mr. Murtfeldt came to Rockford to join his father who had moved to this city, having traded other property for forty acres just outside the city limits. In 1866 the father returned to St. Louis, and became editor of the Rural World, and William C. Murtfeldt secured the homestead, which he conducted as a fruit and dairy farm. In 1913 he rented his land, and has since then lived practically retired, but still conducts the fruit farm.

On June 4, 1868, Mr. Murtfeldt was married to Sarah L. Spare, born January 18, 1843, at Galena, Ill., a daughter of James Spare, of New York state. Mr. and Mrs. Murtfeldt became the parents of the following children: Fred J., who lives at St. Louis, Mo., married Blossom Hawk, and has two sons, Lawrence W. and Frederick Harold; Minnie A., who is a school-teacher of Rockford, lives with her father; and Charles, who died at the age of six years. Mrs. Murtfeldt died August 13, 1914. Mr. Murtfeldt belongs to the Westminster Presbyterian Church, and for a number of years has been one of its elders, and he has also been a deacon. A Republican, he served as a director of school district No. 69, since 1880, is now clerk, and while two schoolhouses were being built, he was president of the school board. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a valued member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., in which he is as popular as he is highly esteemed by the outside world.

MUTIMER, Daniel C. Many of the men who laid the foundations of Rockford's manufacturing pre-eminence are not now alive to see the results of their industry and foresight, but to them the city owes a debt not easily discharged. One of these men was Daniel C. Mutimer, whose association with the sheet metal interests was important. He was born in England, March 11, 1835, a son of Jeremiah and Frances (Cobb) Mutimer, who in the fall of 1836 came to the United States, and located in New York state.

Daniel C. Mutimer was married in Amsterdam, N. Y., September 29, 1857, to Mary Ann Conde, born near Schenectady, N. Y., a daughter of Nicholas De Groff and Ann (Dewandler) Conde, natives of New York.

The children born to Daniel C. Mutimer, and wife were as follows: Elizabeth, who died in infancy; Daniel C., Jr., who died November 26, 1908; Nicholas, who died at the age of two years and two months; Walter C., who lives with his mother, married Alberta Atwood, and has one son, Guy S.; Carl, who died at the age of seven years, and Henry C., who was the youngest son

of Daniel C. Mutimer, Sr., and wife, died in infancy.

For a year following his marriage, in 1857, Mr. Mutimer lived at Amsterdam, conducting a hardware store, and then moved to Schenectady, where he carried on the same line of business until 1870, when the family came to Rockford. He went into the hardware business in a store on Winnebago street, where he remained for six years and then went into a grocery business, which he conducted until his death, April 9, 1892. His widow has since resided at Rockford, in the old home on Winnebago street.

MUTIMER, Daniel C., Jr. It is a lamentable fact that many of the best men of a community are taken from the midst of their activity when life seems to offer so much, and their value as citizens is so generally recognized. The late Daniel C. Mutimer, Jr., was a man of solid qualities and business importance, and had he been longer spared he would have accomplished even more than he did in the brief span allotted him. He was born at Amsterdam, N. Y., February 20, 1860, a son of Daniel C. and Mary Ann (Conde) Mutimer, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

Daniel C. Mutimer resided with his parents until his marriage when he formed a household of his own. A sheet metal worker, in 1907 he established himself in business and was doing very well at the time of his death, on November 26, 1908. His widow continued the business with marked ability until 1913, when she sold it to her son, Leigh R. The family residence at No. 609 Hulin street, Rockford, was not yet completed when Mr. Mutimer died, but Mrs. Mutimer carried out the plans and made of it a beautiful dwelling.

On October 20, 1880, Mr. Mutimer was married to Caroline Beemer, born at Romeo, Mich., a daughter of Samuel C. and Almira (Newman) Beemer, natives of New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Mutimer had the following children: Charles D., who is at home; Leigh R., who lives at Rockford; Lula May, who died at the age of six years; Earl B., who is at home; Kathleen, who is Mrs. Ross T. Stewart, of Rockford; and Harold H. and Clarence Walter who are both at home. Mr. Mutimer belonged to the Methodist Church of South Rockford. In politics he was a Republican. A man who believed in the value of fraternal organizations, he was a Mason, an Odd Fellow and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

MUTIMER, Frederick, now deceased, for many years, until sickness attacked him, was one of the representative men of Winnebago County. He was born at Amsterdam, N. Y., April 14, 1842, a son of Jeremiah and Frances (Jacobs) Mutimer of England. His parents came to Winnebago County in 1861, the father purchasing land in the southern part of Rockford. The following year he was joined by his son, Frederick Mutimer.

Frederick Mutimer attended the common schools of New York State, and after coming to Rockford was employed in the bolt works of this city, and became the superintendent of this establishment. He was an inventor and several of his patented articles, all of which are practicable, are in use at the bolt works today. They are designed for use on the machinery used in bolt manufacturing. In 1885 Mr. Mutimer bought the farm of 135 acres in Rockford Township on which he lived for twenty-five years, and which is now conducted by his son, Grant. Later he moved back to the residence at No. 1433 Clifton avenue, Rockford, where his widow still resides. This property had been purchased by his father and used as his residence until his death, following which Frederick Mutimer became the owner. In 1900 Frederick Mutimer was taken ill, and he never recovered the use of his faculties, dying March 6, 1915.

In 1861 Frederick Mutimer was married at Amsterdam, N. Y., to Cornelia Fulmer, born in Herkimer County, N. Y., a daughter of Reverend Isaac and Lydia (Churchill) Fulmer, natives of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Mutimer became the parents of the following children: Nellie, who is Mrs. Dudley Thompson, a widow, who resides on West street, Rockford; Hattie, who is deceased; Francis, who is Mrs. A. R. Morgan, of Rockford; Addie, who is superintendent of the Winnebago County farm school; Jessie, who is the widow of Thomas Buttner, lives with her mother; Emeline, who is Mrs. John Chappell; Fred and Isaac, both of whom are rural free delivery mail carriers from the Rockford postoffice; Grant, who lives on the homestead; Ruth, who is the wife of Morris McNair, a Rockford mail carrier; and Violet, who is Mrs. Paul Russell of Rockford. Mr. Mutimer belonged to the Methodist Church, in South Rockford. In politics he was a Republican.

MUTIMER, Grant Edmund. A number of the more successful agriculturalists of Winnebago County are combining dairying with general farming with excellent results. One who has proven that these lines can be profitably worked together is Grant Edmund Mutimer of Rockford Township. He was born at Rockford, January 13, 1880, a son of Frederick and Mary C. (Fulmer) Mutimer.

After attending the grammar and high schools of Rockford, Grant Mutimer began farming on the farm owned by his mother in Rockford Township, where he still resides, cultivating 135 acres. His operations as a dairyman and general farmer are well conducted and he is a recognized authority on both branches of agriculture.

On June 2, 1906, Mr. Mutimer was married to Gertrude Palmer, born at Marshall, Wis., June 6, 1882, a daughter of Adelbert and Emma (Calkins) Palmer, natives of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Mutimer have the following children:

Mary Elizabeth, born June 29, 1908; Ethel Lucile, born October 16, 1909; Adelbert Grant, born April 3, 1911; and Robert Homer, born May 8, 1913. In politics Mr. Mutimer is a Republican, but he has not sought office, preferring to devote all of his time to his private affairs. Mr. Mutimer stands very well with his neighbors, and is one of the leading men of his township. The family attends the Methodist Church.

MUTIMER, Nathaniel I., rural free delivery carrier on Route No. 1 out of Rockford, and one of the sterling men of Winnebago County, was born at No. 1433 Clifton avenue, Rockford, March 29, 1878, a son of Frederick and Mary C. (Cornelia) Mutimer, natives of Amsterdam and St. James, N. Y. Nathaniel Mutimer spent his boyhood at Rockford, where he was educated, and where he also learned the blacksmithing trade. His apprenticeship at this trade commenced when he was sixteen years old, and he continued to follow it until his enlistment for service during the Spanish-American War, on April 28, 1898, in Company K, Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to Porto Rico. After the close of hostilities he remained in the service until January 16, 1899, when he was honorably discharged.

Returning home, Mr. Mutimer worked at his trade until 1900, when he was appointed a rural free delivery carrier, and has so continued ever since. In December, 1896, Mr. Mutimer was married to Hattie N. Denton, born at Rockford, a daughter of Delos H. and Anna (Lambert) Denton, natives of Rockford, and Prince Edward Island, respectively. Mrs. Denton died November 14, 1882, and Mr. Denton died February 23, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Mutimer have one daughter, Marian Cornelia. Mrs. Mutimer was educated in the common and high schools of Rockford. In politics Mr. Mutimer is independent. Fraternally he belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 66, A. F. & A. M.

NELSON, August, junior member of the well known grocery house operated under the caption of the Peterson & Nelson Grocery Company, No. 702 Kishwaukee street, Rockford, is one of the substantial men of Winnebago County. He was born at Smoland, Sweden, September 3, 1872, a son of Nels and Emma (Carlson) Nelson, both of whom were born, reared, and married in Smoland, Sweden, where they carried on farming. There the father died in 1905, but the mother survives, making her home in Sweden.

August Nelson lived at Smoland where he attended school, until he was fourteen years old, at which time he left home for the United States, and in 1896 located in Stillman Valley, Ogle County, Ill., and worked on a farm for his uncle, Carl Carlson, for a year. He then came to Rockford and worked in a chair factory for a year, learning to carve furniture. Not caring for this business he went with Olson & Palm, E. State street grocers, for a year, and then was with Frederickson & Anderson, grocers on E. State street, for three years. In 1900 Mr.

Nelson interrupted his business career to enlist in Company L, Forty-second United States Volunteers at Rockford, and served two years in the Philippine Islands, when he was honorably discharged and returned to Rockford. He then rented 160 acres of land in Stillman Valley, which he operated for five years, then established himself in a grocery business at No. 835 Kishwaukee street, Rockford. Within two years he formed a partnership with Mr. Peterson, and since 1909 the firm has been at its present stand where they do a large business, theirs being the largest store on Kishwaukee street. Mr. Nelson is an Odd Fellow and belongs to the Spanish-American War Veteran Association. In politics he is a Republican.

In 1901 Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Hulda Peterson, a daughter of John and Sophia Peterson, and they have three children, namely: Genevieve, Evelyn and Norma. Mrs. Nelson was born at Smoland, Sweden, and came to the United States with her parents who located in Stillman Valley, Ogle County, Ill., where Mr. Peterson became labor foreman for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. Later the family moved to Rockford and live at 1604 Seventh street, Mr. Peterson being now retired.

NELSON, Augustus, one of the substantial capitalists of Rockford whose investments in city realty have proven his faith in the future of this city, is one of the leading men of Winnebago County. He was born in Sweden, October 13, 1834, and was there educated. In 1854 he left Sweden for the United States, and locating at Chicago, worked there for a short time. He then went to Batavia, Ill., where he was employed in a wagon and carriage factory and learned the trade. On account of hard times in that section he left Batavia for Aurora, where he worked at his trade for two years, and going then to Joliet was employed at his trade there for two and one-half years, or until 1861, when he came to Rockford and found work in a wagon shop here until 1864. In that year he engaged in work as a carpenter for the government, enlisting in the Union army as such, and remaining until the close of the Civil war.

On returning to Rockford, Mr. Nelson and Thomas Sully opened a wagon and carriage shop, and this business association continued until Mr. Sully was made city marshal, when Mr. Nelson took another partner. After seven years in this line of business, Mr. Nelson went into a clothing business, and did tailoring for some years. His beginning was small, and later he moved to Wyanet, Ill., where he conducted a similar establishment upon a larger scale, and as his capital increased, was able to return to Rockford and became the partner of Elander and S. A. Johnson, and the firm for seven years did a large business as clothiers. After his partners sold out, Mr. Nelson then conducted the business alone for eighteen years. Since 1897 he has been living practically retired, although he superintends the management of his property. In 1862 he bought land

on South Third street, and built a very nice residence upon it and here he still lives. He owns a four-flat building on Market street, and also some Chicago residences, all of his investments being of a solid character.

In September, 1858, Mr. Nelson was married to Christina M. Peterson, born in Sweden, a daughter of Carl Peterson. He was a farmer who brought his family to the United States and located at Rockford in 1852. Mrs. Nelson died in 1894, the mother of the following children: Otellia, who died in infancy; Alice Mary and Frank, who are deceased; Albin, who lives at Rockford; Della, who married Rev. N. J. Vlunder, of Stockholm, Sweden, is deceased; and Ada Adura, who is Mrs. Fred Blake of Los Angeles, Cal. In September, 1911, Mr. Nelson was married (second) to Mrs. Matilda (Okerberg) Buford, born at Moline, Ill., a daughter of Eric and Johanna Okerberg, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Nelson was the widow of John Buford, a native of Sweden, and the mother of two children, namely: Ella and Mabel. The former, who married George Schwenker, a shoe dealer of Moline, Ill., Davenport, Iowa, and Rock Island, Ill., with residence at No. 211 Tenth street, Rock Island, was born October 13, 1880, at Moline, and was married November 25, 1912, at the home of her parents in Rockford. Mr. Schwenker was born March 5, 1877, at Burlington, Iowa. Mrs. Schwenker finished her education at the Moline High School, and has many friends in that city and in Rock Island and Rockford. The second daughter married Albert Bawden, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. At both wedding ceremonies the Rev. J. W. Johnson, of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Rockford, officiated. Mrs. Nelson attended the common schools and the Moline High school and is a member of the English Lutheran Church, as is also Mr. Nelson, in which he has held office for many years. In politics he is a Republican. A Mason in good standing, he belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M. Mrs. Nelson belongs to the Woman's Relief Corps, the Court of Honor and the Woman's Christian Temperance Association.

NELSON, E. A., actively engaged in business as a sporting goods merchant, is one of the leading men of Rockford and one who stands unusually high in public estimation. He was born at Crystal Lake, McHenry County, Ill., March 18, 1875, a son of Gust and Christine Nelson. Gust Nelson was born in Smolan, Sweden, where he was educated and learned the tailoring business, which he followed until he came to the United States. After locating at Crystal Lake, Ill., he rented a farm and operated it until 1889, when he moved to Rockford and worked in the factory of the American Furniture Company until it failed, when he established himself in a confectionery business on the corner of Tenth street and Fourth avenue, but later moved to Ninth street and Railroad avenue. Still later he built a

business block on Kishwaukee street and Peoples avenue, where he conducts a grocery and confectionery business. He is seventy-eight years old and his wife is eighty years old, and both are in excellent health. In politics he is a Republican.

E. A. Nelson remained on the McHenry County farm until he was fourteen years old, at which time the family moved to Rockford, and he began working for the American Furniture Company, but after two years went to Elgin, Ill., where he engaged in a grocery business with his brother-in-law, Henry Burger, for a number of years. He then served for three years in Troop F, Fifth Cavalry, U. S. Army, during the Philippine insurrection, and later the regiment was ordered to Fort Duchesne to suppress an Indian riot caused by the government survey of an Indian reservation. At the expiration of his three years' service, Mr. Nelson was honorably discharged and returned to Rockford, where he entered a feed business on Ninth street and Railroad avenue. He later bought his father's confectionery business and operated both lines for two years. He then built a store on the corner of Twentieth avenue and Eleventh street, where he went into the grocery business and so continued for three years, when he sold and went to Davenport, Iowa. There he was engaged in a bottling business for two years, but returned to Rockford and started in a sporting goods business at No. 219 Seventh street, where he is still located, controlling a large and growing business.

In 1908 Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Alice Blumberg, a daughter of August and Tillie Blumberg of Rockford. Mr. Nelson is a Spanish-American war veteran, and belongs to the Swedish order of Vikings. In politics he is a Republican, but has not entered the arena for political honors.

NELSON, Frithiof, secretary and treasurer of the Forest City Knitting Company, and a director of the Nelson Knitting Company and of the Manufacturers Bank, with residence at No. 1315 National avenue, is one of the most thoroughly representative men of Rockford, and one who is a strong factor in determining the policies of the several concerns with which he is associated, as well as in advancing the general welfare of the city. He was born at Rockford, July 18, 1865, and here educated in the grammar and high schools.

Upon leaving school, Mr. Nelson went to work in the office of the Nelson Knitting Company as shipping clerk and bookkeeper, and so continued until 1889, when he began organizing his present company, which opened its plant in 1890. In this work Mr. Nelson was associated with his three brothers, William Nelson, who was made president; Oscar Nelson, who was made vice president; and J. Franklin Nelson, who was the inventor. The mother of these sons is also a stockholder, and A. D. Early also holds stock. A sister at one time held stock, but sold it. The father, John Nelson, was an inventor, and in-

vented the Nelson knitting machine, and both the concerns, the Forest City Knitting Company and the Nelson Knitting Company, use his patents. John Franklin Nelson, one son, has improved upon his father's inventions, he inheriting his genius along this line, and he has perfected a machine which finishes a sock with a ribbed top, something every inventor of knitting machines has struggled to do. The father strove to put his ideas into concrete form, but died several years before his son succeeded.

Frithiof Nelson was married at Batavia, Ill., January 31, 1894, to Emma M. Hobler, born in that city, December 30, 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have two daughters, namely: Katherine and Elizabeth, both of whom are at home. Mr. Nelson belongs to the Masonic order, the Elks, and the Rockford Country Club. In politics he is a Republican.

The Rockford commercial interests are agreeably affected by the working of the Forest City Knitting Company for employment is given to 150 persons, and the output is about 3,000 dozen pairs of socks per day. The brothers are well known and stand very high in the community.

NELSON, John, page 706.

NELSON, Nels, foreman of the shipping department of the National Mirror Works, with residence at No. 1512 Seventeenth street, is one of the highly respected and reliable men of Rockford, whose services to his company are appreciated at their true value. He was born in Norway, July 21, 1888. When he was ten years old he was brought to the United States, and had no educational advantages after arriving in this country. For two years he was at Chicago and then assisted an uncle until 1905 in conducting a real estate business. In 1905 Mr. Nelson came to Rockford and took a position with the National Mirror Works as a glazier and in 1907 was promoted to his present position. In that same year he returned to Norway and spent about five months visiting his parents who still make their home in Norway. On returning to Rockford, he resumed his connections with the National Mirror Works, which he still maintains. Mr. Nelson is unmarried. He belongs to the Norwegian Society. Alert, energetic and a hard worker, Mr. Nelson has fairly earned his promotion and stands well with his associates and his company.

NELSON, William, president of the Rockford Drilling Machine Company, president of the Forest City Knitting Company, and a stockholder in various other companies of Rockford, has withdrawn from active part in business, but is widely known throughout the state. He was born at Sycamore, Ill., October 29, 1857, a son of John and Eva C. Nelson, natives of Sweden.

William Nelson was educated in the public schools of Rockford, and also had the advantage of a short course at the Rockford Academy. His business experience began when

he was engaged by Burson & Nelson as a machine operator, and he continued in the employ of this concern until 1879, when he went into business with F. R. Brown, the association continuing for about eighteen months, at the expiration of which period the new concern was consolidated with that of Burson & Nelson, and incorporated as the Nelson Knitting Company, with F. R. Brown as president, and A. S. Ruhl as secretary and treasurer. In 1898 Mr. Nelson founded the Rockford Drilling Machine Company,

The marriage of William Nelson took place at Rockford, October 7, 1889, when he was united to Olivia Olson, who was born July 20, 1867, and died January 15, 1905. Their children were as follows: Eva L., who married Lee Dauels, has one son, Lee N., born October 6, 1915; Elsie C.; William; Hildiug and Dorethea, all of whom are at home. Mr. Nelson belongs to the Elks and also to the Masous, in which order he has attained the thirty-second degree. In politics he is a Republican. During the administration of Governor Yates Mr. Nelson was honored by appointment on his staff, with the rank of colonel.

NESVANT, Oscar, now associated with the Workers Grocery Company at No. 321 Seventh street, Rockford, is a man who has risen through his own indomitable efforts and who, while gaining material recognition, has not neglected to establish and maintain high standards of business honesty. He was born in Westergotland, Sweden, March 30, 1876, a son of August and Sophia (Swenson) Nesvant, who were born also in Westergotland. There they were farming people all their lives, as were the Swensons. The paternal grandfather, Johan Frederick Nesvant, was a manufacturing coppersmith, and was prominent in his town, becoming an alderman. He died in Westergotland, Sweden. August Nesvant and wife both died in Sweden, he in 1897, aged sixty-eight years, and she in 1894, aged forty-six years, having spent their entire lives in their native land.

Oscar Nesvant worked with his father on the farm until he was twenty years old, or until 1897, when he left Sweden for the United States. Upon his arrival he came to Rockford and worked for the first three years as a farm hand, and for the next few years worked for various furniture factories. He then went with the Scandia Hardware Company, and remained with this concern for six years, gaining a valuable amount of business experience, and that led to his being offered a position with Carsons & Sons Hardware Company. He accepted this offer and remained with the company for two years, and then took charge of the Workers Grocery Company in 1913, becoming its treasurer, general manager and a stockholder. The company was incorporated October 27, 1906, and now owns both lot and building occupied by the business, and a very large and valuable trade is controlled. Mr. Nesvant belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and to the Vikings, the

latter a Swedish insurance society, and is held in the highest esteem in both organizations.

NEUMEISTER, Anton. Some of the substantial business men of Rockford have passed away, but they left behind an honorable record which redounds to their credit and adds prestige to their city. One of the men who attained to notable distinction at Rockford was the late Anton Neumeister, manufacturer of carriages and wagons. He was born November 27, 1837, at Furstendun Reuss, Germany, a son of Frederick and Rosena (Sack) Neumeister.

Frederick Neumeister was born at the same place as his son, and there became a manufacturer of bar rails, and he also operated ore mines in conjunction with his steel mills, he having learned his business from his father, who had been engaged in the same line. In December, 1848, he sold his plant to relatives, and came to the United States with his family. After his arrival in America, he located at Thiensville, Wis., where he bought a small farm and built a log house and barn on it. There he lived until his death in 1860, when he was seventy years old. His wife survived him and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. August Rentelmen, at Milwaukee, Wis. He was a Democrat in politics, and he and wife were consistent members of the Lutheran Church.

Anton Neumeister spent his boyhood in Germany and Wisconsin, and attended school, and as soon as he was old enough he learned the wagonmaking trade and also the blacksmith trade at Hamilton, Wis., where he remained for a time, and then began working for a Mr. Dueve at Downsville, Wis. After two years there he went to Madison, Wis., and worked for a Mr. Lamp for four years. In 1863 Mr. Neumeister enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company I, Twenty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and continued until the war was over, when he was honorably discharged, and returned home in 1865. During the battle of Lookout Mountain he was wounded in the left arm. His brother Julius was a soldier in the same regiment.

After his return from military service, Mr. Neumeister remained at Downsville, Wis., for a short time, and then settled at Rockford, Ill., where he worked for his brother August, as a wagonmaker and blacksmith for two years. He then bought his brother's business, which was then located on State street, by the river, and remained at that stand for two years, and then built a brick building on N. Madison street. It was a two-story structure with a frontage of 66 feet, and a depth of 80 feet. Here he also operated a paint shop, and built up a fine business. At the time of his death, which occurred at his residence at No. 115 N. Madison street, Rockford, February 20, 1900, when he was sixty-three years old, he was one of the leaders in his line in Winnebago County. Fraternally he was a Mason, while his political affiliations were with the Republican party. St. Paul's Lutheran

Church at Rockford held his religious membership.

In 1869 Mr. Neumeister was married to Miss Theresa Steps, at Milwaukee, Wis., and they have one child, Frederick, who married Miss Bertha Labuz. He is managing the business of his late father, for his mother, and since taking hold he has added a garage and automobile department, which is proving profitable. Mrs. Neumeister is a daughter of Frederick and Rosina (Frank) Steps, the former of whom was born in Germany, where he was educated. Later he engaged in farming with his father and also operated flour and lumber mills. After they sold these they came to the United States, the voyage, in a sailing vessel, consuming eight weeks and three days. From New York City they went to Downsville, Wis., where Frederick Steps bought a small farm and lived until his death, in 1854, at the age of fifty-four years. Mrs. Steps died February 15, 1900, aged eighty-six years.

NEVIUS, Garrett, page 708.

NEVIUS, Garrett L., foreman of the cabinet department of the Rockford Frame and Fixture Company, of which he is also a stockholder, is one of the best examples Rockford affords of the thrifty, expert workman who has risen from humble beginnings to independent means. He was born at Rockford, July 30, 1871, and here educated. He is a son of the late Winfield L. Nevius, one of Rockford's pioneer ice men, and a nephew of Col. Garrett L. Nevius, who was killed at Vicksburg during the Civil war, and after whom G. A. R. Post No. 1 was named. Extended mention of Colonel Nevius is made in the historical part of this work.

Garrett L. Nevius' first individual effort towards self support was made on his uncle's farm, where he remained for three years, at the same time continuing his studies. Following that he worked at the carpenter trade for four seasons, and then became a cabinetmaker for the Royal Mantel Company. In 1898 he entered into his connection with his present company, as a cabinetmaker, and proved himself so efficient and reliable that in 1914 he was made foreman of his department, a position he continues to hold.

On November 23, 1893, Mr. Nevius was married, at Rockford, to May H. Waddell, of Rockford. Mr. Nevius belongs to the Royal League and enjoys his association in this order. The Centennial Methodist Church of Rockford holds his membership. In politics he is a Republican and he has been a school director. The family residence is at No. 6 Twenty-fourth street, and Mr. Nevius owns this property and takes pride in keeping it up to date and comfortable. A hardworking, thrifty and capable man, Mr. Nevius is deservedly ranked among the representative men of Rockford.

NEWTON, Julian E., is one of the most actively engaged men of Winnebago Village, deal-

ing as he does in agricultural implements, automobiles, operating a threshing machine during the season, and conducting a feed mill in the winter. He was born in Seward Township, Winnebago County, Ill., January 1, 1855, and is a son of Pliny Z. and Martha (Phelps) Newton. His paternal grandparents were Ziba and Martha (Burnapp) Newton, of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and the maternal grandparents were Silas and Clarinda (Williams) Phelps, who came from Ohio to Winnebago County in 1850, settling in Seward Township.

Pliny Z. Newton was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., November 23, 1830, and there was reared to manhood. His mother died in 1850, and in 1852, accompanied by his father, he came to Winnebago County, and soon after his arrival purchased 120 acres of land in Seward Township, on which he made all of the improvements, developing his farm into a very valuable one, and there he resided until 1885 when he moved to the village of Winnebago. Here he engaged in an undertaking business which he conducted until 1909, when he retired. He still makes his home at Winnebago. His children are as follows: Julian E., who owns the old Dunkley homestead; Almon D., who resides on the Newton homestead, which he owns; and Alba, of Kirkland.

Julian E. Newton was reared in his native township, and received his educational training in the public schools of Winnebago. After attaining his majority he embarked in a livery business at Winnebago, and also in a furniture and undertaking business with his brother, A. D. This was continued until 1885, but since that date Julian E. Newton has been engaged as described in the opening paragraph, with the exception of the automobile branch, which he opened up in 1911 to meet a positive demand. At present he represents the Richmond Car Company, of Richmond, Ind. He has added the handling of furnaces to his other activities.

In January, 1902, Mr. Newton was married to Miss Jessie E. Seaton, a daughter of William and Martha Seaton of Seward Township. Mr. and Mrs. Newton have one son, Lloyd G. As indicated, Mr. Newton is one of the energetic business men of Winnebago. In politics he is a Republican, but is not an aspirant for public honors.

NICHOLSON, Enoch, president and manager of the Skandia Hardware Company of Rockford, is one of the men of Swedish birth who has found in this city congenial surroundings and ample opportunities to develop those business traits which appear to be possessed by so many from that northland. He was born in Kolaby-Westergotland, Sweden, July 11, 1866, a son of Per August and Anna Kajsa (Hokanson) Nikolousson.

Per August Nicholson was a man of determined mind and broad outlook, who was fearless in the expression of his views and his upholding of what he believed to be right. His stand upon many public questions, and his

prominence as a bridge contractor, made him enemies. His work in bridge building was of such a substantial nature that many of the stone bridges erected by him will outlast the storms and stress of the ages. His prominence, however, caused him to be attacked while journeying alone, and he received injuries and suffered from exposure to such an extent that his death ensued in February, 1875. After his demise, his wife returned to the farm her husband owned and had rented out, and lived on it until 1892, when she sold this property, came to America and resided with her son. She passed away November 25, 1914.

Enoch Nicholson attended the public schools of his native place where he lived until he was twenty years old, at which time he came to the United States and located at Rockford and worked for neighboring farmers for three years, and also had two years' experience as delivery driver for the Palmer Hardware Company. In 1892, with Andrew Hanson, Edward Ekstedt and Carl A. Newberry, he founded the Skandia Hardware Company, with a capital stock of \$12,000. The first officials were: S. A. Johnson, president; Andrew Hanson, secretary; August P. Floberg, treasurer, and Sanford Olson, manager; while the board of directors was composed in addition to the above, of the following: O. B. Harding, Gust Johnson, C. Abeson, J. P. Nordholm, Anton Carlson. The present officers are: Enoch Nicholson, president and manager; Andrew T. Boden, vice president, and J. T. Peters, secretary and treasurer, while in addition to the above officials, the board of directors is composed of the following: O. B. Harding, Anton Carlson, J. T. Peters, Andrew T. Boden, August P. Floberg, and Otto Johnson. The purpose of the organization was to found a general retail hardware store in connection with a tin shop. The stock includes all kinds of tools and shelf hardware, furnaces and stoves and kitchen ware. The company purchased the building which is three stories in height, 44 x 110 feet, from Babcock & Snyder in 1902, and the new addition, 22 x 110 feet was bought in 1907 from J. F. Benson, all of the space being occupied for business purposes except four residence flats in the old building. Mr. Nicholson was made manager of this company in 1904, and has had charge of affairs ever since.

In 1895 Mr. Nicholson was married to Alice Lorena Stromerts, a daughter of Theodore and Paulina (Hollem) Stromerts, and they have eight children as follows: Wilma Julia, Elsinor Florence, Ahlex Enoch, Rozelle Alice, Ellen Linnea, Melvin Nicholas Sedric, Verna Lucile, and Gladys Jeanette. Mr. Nicholson belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, the North Star Benefit Association, and has been its president since its organization fifteen years ago. He belongs to the Illinois Association of the New Jerusalem Church. In his heart he is a believer in the efficacy of faith. He is a most estimable man in every respect and is held in

the highest esteem by all who are associated with him.

NORDSTROM, Charles Franc. The introduction and adoption of cement as a building material has resulted in the development of large business interests along this line and afforded a desirable field for the operations of some of the most substantial men of the country. One of those who are manufacturing cement products upon a large scale in Winnebago County, is Charles Franc Nordstrom, of Rockford. He was born in Sweden, October 13, 1847, and lived in his native land until seventeen years old. At that time he came to the United States, starting on his birthday on a steamer, and after landing, came to Illinois where he located at Paxton. Although still a youth, he had learned the trade of a carpenter, and found work at this in his new home.

After three years spent at Paxton, Mr. Nordstrom came to Rockford, and went to work for the first furniture factory established in this city. While in its employ he met with an accident which resulted in the loss of one of his thumbs. After some years with this concern, Mr. Nordstrom engaged with the Forest City Furniture Company, and later with the Co-operative factory, being a stockholder of the latter, and remained with it until he was appointed street commissioner by Mayor Sherrett, which office he held for two years, when he became assistant superintendent of streets. When Mayor Hutchins was elected, he made Mr. Nordstrom superintendent of streets, and he held this important office for six years, being re-appointed by Mayor Brown. It was while he was in this office that Rockford began macadamizing its streets. In order to do this, Mr. Nordstrom bought a quarry stone crusher and a steam roller, the first possessed by the city. It was he who introduced modern methods and machinery into the street department, and the present fine streets are due to his efforts. In 1903 Mr. Nordstrom was elected county commissioner holding that office for years, his services to this locality having been very valuable. In 1898 Mr. Nordstrom established his present cement business, being assisted by his sons. They produce everything that modern mortar machinery will manufacture in cement and granite work, and are manufacturers only, shipping extensively to other cities.

In 1878 Mr. Nordstrom was married at Rockford to Gustava Matilda Berggren, a daughter of John Berggren. Mr. and Mrs. Nordstrom became the parents of five children, as follows: Ellen, who is deceased; Jennie Matilda, who is also deceased; Eben E.; Edith, who is Mrs. Herman Grant; and Martin V. Mr. Nordstrom is a member of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford, of which he has been a trustee for many years. This church has the largest congregation of any Lutheran Church in America.

NORDVALL, C. Arthur, whose realty operations have given him a place among the progressive

men of Rockford who are engaged very successfully in boosting this city and making its many advantages known to outsiders, and in maintaining its prestige, is conveniently located at No. 315 Seventh street, while his residence is R. R. No. 9, North Second road.

Mr. Nordvall was born at Rockford, December 15, 1886, and was educated in the schools of this city. Early entering the business world, he was first a shipping clerk in a manufacturing concern, and as he was promoted was held to be a valuable man. In the meanwhile he was studying values and learning all he could about Rockford realty, and in 1908 established himself in a real estate business. He handles principally east side and Seventh street business property, and he owns several valuable factory buildings. Many of the Seventh street business blocks have been developed by Mr. Nordvall. He has been especially active in Highland, erecting a number of residences on lots which he sold for permanent homes. He also built plants for small industrial concerns, and some of them that had their beginnings in his section, later developed to such proportions as to necessitate their moving to larger quarters. Keeping thoroughly abreast of the times, Mr. Nordvall is a member of the Seventh Street Business Men's Association, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Rockford Real Estate Board. Fraternally he belongs to the Moose and the Svea Soner. A Republican, he belongs to and is secretary of the Swedish-American Republican Club, and the Young Men's Republican Club.

In 1911 Mr. Nordvall was married at Rockford, to Alice Swanson, born January 29, 1890, at Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Nordvall have a daughter, Marjorie A., who was born September 11, 1914.

NORDVALL, Gustave A., foreman in charge of the city repair work is one of the efficient men whose services the municipality of Rockford is fortunate in securing. He was born in Smolan, Sweden, February 6, 1857, a son of Adolph and Anna (Carlson) Nordvall. The parents were natives of the same place, where the father died in 1865, aged forty years.

In 1879 Gustave A. Nordvall came to the United States and located at Rockford, where he was engaged with the Price glove factory for a short time, and then worked with a Mr. Knowlton as a blacksmith for three years, and also assisted him in the manufacture of reapers. Mr. Nordvall was then with the S. B. Wilkins woolen mills for seven years, when he went into a milk business and conducted it for one year. He then worked at the carpenter trade for the next four years with Carl Newberg, when he was appointed to his present position by City Engineer Main, succeeding executives reappointing him, he having held this position for over twenty-three years, a fact that speaks for itself as to his efficiency.

In 1882 Mr. Nordvall was married to Miss Emma Johnson, a daughter of John and Louise (Jacobson) Johnson of Smolan, Sweden, she

having left Sweden and come to Rockford in 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Nordvall have become the parents of six children, namely: C. Arthur, Ernest F., Edith C., Esther M., Roy N., and Howard J. Mr. Nordvall is a Republican. He and his wife are consistent members of the Swedish Mission Church. In 1891 Mr. Nordvall made a trip back to Sweden and upon his return brought his widowed mother with him, she later dying at the home of his sister, aged ninety-one years.

NORRLANDER, Verner, proprietor of the Globe Grocery at No. 622 Seventh street, Rockford, has developed a business that brings in gratifying returns and proves him a man of unusual ability and excellent judgment. He was born at Westergotland, Sweden, February 19, 1871, a son of Adolph and Sofie Norrlander, natives of Westergotland, Sweden, farming people who never left their native land, the father dying there in 1893, aged fifty-eight years, and the mother dying in 1913, aged eighty years. Her people were also farmers.

Verner Norrlander attended the public schools of his native place, and when he was nineteen years old he came to the United States, locating at Rockford where he obtained employment in the South Rockford stone quarry, and remained there for a short time, leaving to go with the Rockford Street Railway Company. This corporation was extending its lines on the different streets, and Mr. Norrlander labored for them in this construction work. He then was with the Rockford Chair Factory until 1893 when the plant was closed on account of business depression. In this year Mr. Norrlander went with the Northwestern Railroad Company at Boone, Iowa, and for seventeen months was engaged there in construction work on railroad bridges. Once more coming to Rockford, he was employed by the West End Furniture Company, having charge of the rip saw. Soon thereafter he became a clerk in the grocery of Gustefson & Gesslander, for a short time, and then engaged with Claus Bangstrom as a grocery clerk. After four years he left Mr. Bangstrom to establish a business of his own, which he has developed into one of the largest grocery houses on the street, his long experience proving very valuable. Outside of his business and his home, Mr. Norrlander has few interests, but he belongs to the Lyron Singing Society and is a thirty-second degree Mason. In politics he is a Republican.

In November, 1900, Mr. Norrlander was married to Miss Hilma Stonewall, then of Pecatonica Township, a daughter of John and Johanna Stonewall, natives of Sweden. The father died there in 1904, having been an extensive farmer. The mother came to Rockford after the death of the father, and is now residing with Mr. and Mrs. Norrlander. Mr. and Mrs. Norrlander had one child, Hilda, who died aged six months.

NORTH, Frank R., proprietor of the North Transfer Company at Nos. 417 and 419 S. Court street, with residence at No. 812 Woodlawn avenue, is one of the best known and most highly respected men of Rockford. He was born in Susquehanna County, Pa., November 25, 1850, a son of Horatio and Mary A. (Linderman) North. The parents were both born at Ithaca, N. Y., where they married. Until he was forty-five years old, the father was a shoemaker, but at that time, upon coming to Illinois, and locating in Boone County, he rented land in Mauchester Township, and engaged in farming. In a short time he was able to buy land, and improved it, living upon it for twenty years. He then sold it and secured property at Rockford, where he lived until his death when he was eighty-seven years old. The mother died at the age of eighty-two years. The father was a Republican, and he and the mother were consistent members of the Methodist Church. The paternal grandfather was a hotel man for a number of years, but later bought farm land in Crawford County, Pa., where he and the grandmother both died.

Until he was five years old, Frank R. North lived in his native county, but in that fall he was brought to the vicinity of Beloit, Wis., where he remained until he was twelve years old. He then began working as a farm hand for the neighbors, and later went to Chicago where he engaged in teaming between Chicago and Riverside for six years. He was then engaged by the wholesale grocery house of W. T. Allen & Company, leaving that concern to go with the Boys-Fay & Conkey Company, wholesale grocers. After eight years' faithful service with that house, he came to Rockford, and was encouraged by conditions to establish his present transfer and drayage business, which he still continues. He is one of the best examples of a self-made man Rockford possesses. Beginning to be self-supporting at an age when the majority of lads are still regarded as helpless, he has steadily worked his way upward, and deserves unlimited credit for what he has accomplished. Mr. North owns 132 feet on Woodlawn avenue, on which he has a comfortable modern residence, and he is erecting a fine modern flat building on the north side of the same property. In addition to this, he owns his storage warerooms and office at 417 and 419 S. Court street, and all of this property has been bought from his own earnings.

On August 25, 1880, Mr. North was married to Miss Nellie Doyle, a daughter of James and Mary (Maddigan) Doyle, of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Doyle were natives of Ireland who came to the United States at an early day, and located at Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. North became the parents of three children, namely: Bert, who died in infancy; Bessie Josephine, and Charles Nelson. Mr. North is a Republican. He and his wife belong to the Methodist church, and are very highly esteemed in it as they are wherever known.

NORTON, Marcus Aurelius, county clerk of Winnebago County, and one of the most prominent men of this section, whose long and faithful service to the public merits unusual recognition, was born in Bridgewater, Mich., January 16, 1841, a son of Howel B. and Margaret (Cross) Norton. The family moved to Ann Arbor, Mich., when he was a child, and he began his attendance upon the public schools there, continuing his education at Rockford, to which place the family moved when he was eleven years old. He learned the moulder's trade and worked at it until the outbreak of the Civil war.

On September 1, 1861, Mr. Norton enlisted at Chicago, in Company G, Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to General Sigel's command. The regiment was sent to Missouri to assist in operating against General Bragg. After the battle of Pea Ridge, it went to Batesville and later was ordered to report to General Hallock in front of Corinth. After the battle of Shiloh and the evacuation of Corinth, the regiment joined General Pope and remained at Rienzi, fifteen miles south of Corinth, all summer. In the fall the regiment was sent again against Bragg, and was later assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, and participated in the battles of Perry Hill, Stone River and Chickamauga. Mr. Norton continued with the Army of the Cumberland until the expiration of his term of service. After the capture of Atlanta, on September 15, 1864, he was honorably discharged at Atlanta, Ga. He was wounded and captured at Chickamauga, afterward was paroled and was detailed as a clerk in the Medical Director's office at Louisville, and was later given a furlough. After a month spent at Rockford, he returned to his command and continued to serve as a paroled prisoner in the Parole Camp at Benton Barracks, Mo., until he was allowed to return to his regiment. His injury at Chickamauga was serious, as a bullet struck him in the lower part of the back, and glanced up and came out near the pit of his arm. This wound bled so profusely that he fell from weakness, and thus was captured by the enemy. His captors removed him from his position where he was then in danger of fire, as the district was burning, and they even filled his canteen and made him as comfortable as possible. Captain Hodges, of the Thirty-sixth Illinois, was also wounded, and the two were placed together. After Mr. Norton's wound had been cleaned and dressed on the field, he was taken to a hospital, and although held a prisoner, was given excellent care. After his recovery he was paroled, as mentioned above. Mr. Norton had been reported killed, and the first intimation his family received that this was fortunately untrue was when he was found by his brother while convalescent. At one time during his military service Mr. Norton was honored by being chosen to bear a flag of truce to the enemy's lines to ask for a cessation of hostilities until a fire then raging could be checked. The request was granted, and soldiers from both sides united in

the work of putting out the fire in the timber which was a menace to all.

After returning home, following his discharge, Mr. Norton worked at his trade until he was elected county clerk, in 1886, and he has succeeded himself in this office ever since, being one of the most efficient officials the county possesses. He is a member of the G. A. R., and was commander of Nevius Post for some time. He is a Royal Arch Mason, and a member of the Eastern Star, the Elks, and several other organizations. The Christian Union Church holds his membership.

On May 9, 1866, Mr. Norton was married (first) to Henrietta Gardner, step-daughter of David Reynolds and Martha (Braden) Reynolds. Mrs. Norton died June 11, 1899. Their one child died in infancy. On May 1, 1907, Mr. Norton was married (second) to Mrs. Sarah J. Holcomb, a daughter of Jerry and Celia Lillie, and widow of Thomas Holcomb.

OBERG, Alfred, foreman of the carving department of the Rockford Standard Furniture Company, is a man who not only possesses practical skill but artistic perceptions as well and is justly counted as one of the most valuable men in his line in Rockford. He was born in Sweden, August 7, 1872, and there educated, coming to the United States in 1891, and locating at Rockford on November 22 of that same year.

After working for the West End Furniture Company for a short time, Mr. Oberg spent nine years in the employ of the Scandia Furniture Company and then learned the carving trade in which he developed great efficiency. He went to Chicago for a year, gaining thereby valuable experience, and upon his return spent two years more with the Scandia Furniture Company. For the following year he was with the Forest City Furniture Company, and then, in 1903, entered the employ of his present company as foreman, and has so continued ever since. He owns stock in the company and is a man of considerable means.

On May 24, 1902, Mr. Oberg was married at Kewanee, Ill., to Ganey Gustavson, and their children are as follows: Martha, Marion, Gust and S. Stanley. Mr. Oberg belongs to several insurance organizations. He attends the Christian Tabernacle. In politics he is a Republican. Steady, hardworking and reliable Mr. Oberg deserves the prosperity which is his and stands very high among his associates.

OGILBY, Wallace C., partner of the Ogilby-Lind Furniture Company, is one of the substantial young business men of the Forest City, and one who stands very high in public estimation. He is a native son of Rockford, born November 18, 1892. His father, Frederick Ogilby, was also born at Rockford and here received his educational and business training, first engaging in farming, and later in a grocery business on South Winnebago street. For twelve years Frederick Ogilby conducted this grocery. He died in 1904, aged forty-nine years. He was a

Republican politically, and was a member of the South Winnebago Street Church, Rockford. His fraternal connections were with the Odd Fellows. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ida Peterson, survives and lives with her son, Wallace C.

Wallace C. Ogilby was educated in the Rockford schools, and then took a trip through western Canada, visiting Saskatchewan, Medicine Hat, Regina, Saskatoon and other points of interest in the Dominion, but returned to Rockford to pursue a business life. Here, for a year, he was with the Barber-Coleman Company, machinists. On leaving this concern he went with the Illinois Central Railroad as billing clerk, and after two years became associated with D. R. Mead in the furniture business on South Main street. Within a short time he was made secretary and manager of the East State Street Furniture store, and a stockholder in the company. The company still maintains the furniture business on South Main street, as well as the one on East State street, of which Mr. Ogilby was in charge until September 1, 1912, when he purchased a half interest with Henry Lind and continues under the name of the Ogilby-Lind Furniture Company.

In 1914 Mr. Ogilby was married to Miss Ruth Trahern, a daughter of Harvey and Ada (Keeney) Trahern, of Rockford, Mr. Trahern being one of the proprietors of the Rockford Brass Works. In politics Mr. Ogilby is a Republican, while his fraternal relations are with the Masonic order. A young man of unusual business ability, he has steadily advanced until he stands among the leaders in his line. Mr. Ogilby understands his business thoroughly and as his success has been secured through honorable methods and application of sound business principles, it is deserved.

OHLIN, Adolph, president of the Rockford Cedar Furniture Company, with residence at No. 1520 Eighth street, is the executive head of a concern whose product has gained a widespread popularity and is recognized as a leader in its line in the country. The factory is located at the corner of Tenth street and Eleventh avenue, and is one of the important manufacturing plants of Rockford. Mr. Ohlin was born in Sweden, September 11, 1870, and there educated. He remained at home until April 8, 1888, when he came to the United States.

After his arrival in this country Adolph Ohlin came as far west as Pullman, Ill., where for three years he was employed in the shops at that point, and then went to Chicago. In 1891 he obtained employment with the Smith & Bauer Piano Company, but in 1892 left that concern to come to Rockford, where he worked in furniture factories until 1897. Then he went to Oregon, Ill., and was employed by the Schiller Piano Company and was one of that concern's valued employees until 1902, when he returned to Chicago and spent a year as foreman of the Hobart M. Cable Piano Company. In November, 1902, he came back to Rockford and was a fore-

man for the Haddorff Piano Company until 1911, when, with others, comprising John Erickson, Casper Hallberg and Oscar Berjsten, he organized the Rockford Cedar Furniture Company, for the purpose of manufacturing cedar chests and wardrobes. He has been the president of the company since its organization and much of the present prosperous condition is due to his intelligent management and far-sighted policy. The product is shipped from coast to coast and to Canada.

In 1898 Mr. Ohlin was married to Amanda Erickson, and they have two children: Adolph E. and Mildred, both of whom are at home. Mr. Ohlin belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Lyran Society. A skilled mechanic and a sound business man, Mr. Ohlin has been able to direct the affairs of his company and produce enviable results that place him among the successful men of his time and community.

OKERBERG, Erick. The late Erick Okerberg was the pioneer jeweler of Moline, Ill., and a man so widely known as to belong to all this section of Illinois. He was the father of Mrs. Augustus Nelson of Rockford. He was long one of the familiar figures on the streets of this city, and rightly deserves mention in a work of this class which seeks to honor those who have in any way contributed towards the upbuilding and prestige of Winnebago County. Mr. Okerberg was born in Sweden, in July, 1821, and was there apprenticed to the watchmaking trade, which he learned thoroughly, later establishing himself as a jeweler in his native land. In 1850 he left Sweden for the United States, and finding congenial conditions in Rock Island County, located at the capital of that county, where he remained for four years, and then moved his establishment to Moline. From the beginning he maintained the highest standard of excellence and the business he then founded is carried on along the same lines by his son, Erick, Jr. Until 1891 the elder Erick Okerberg continued the business, but ill health then forced him to retire. Mr. Okerberg was possessed of exceptional skill as a jeweler and watchmaker, and many examples of his work are still in use at Moline and Rock Island. While he was in business in Sweden he made ninety-two watches. A clock that he made in 1856 is in use in the store he founded. He manufactured all his own regulators, and at the age of seventy-six years, completed a striking clock with every part of it his own handiwork.

After his retirement in 1891, Mr. Okerberg bought a farm three miles or more east of Moline, which is now East Moline, but he lived in Moline, residing at No. 764 Thirteenth street until his death, which occurred in 1904, when he was eighty-three years old. His widow survives, and makes her home at Moline. When he was seventy-nine years old Mr. Okerberg took an interesting trip to Cuba for his health and while there bought considerable property.

On January 17, 1853, Mr. Okerberg was mar-

ried to Johanna Peterson, who came from Sweden to Moline in 1852. They had seven children, as follows: Emma, who married August P. Almgren of Chicago; Matilda, who married John A. Buford, and later Augustus Nelson, of Rockford; Erick A., who is a jeweler; Jennie, who is the wife of A. M. Anderson, of Columbia Park; Rosa, who is the wife of Carl Heine, of Chicago; Frank O., who is of Moline, Ill.; and Nellie, who lives with her mother.

OLSON, Gunard M. The ability and experience of some of Rockford's leading business men are recognized by capitalists of this and other cities, as is shown by their being chosen for positions of responsibility. An instance of this appreciation is proved by the fact of the Hess Bros. & Co. department store, Rockford, in their selection of Gunard M. Olson for their secretary, treasurer and manager. This popular establishment is located on E. State and Third streets, and is Rockford's largest department store, controlling an immense trade.

Gunard M. Olson was born in Smoland, Sweden, May 8, 1882, a son of John and Caroline (Johnson) Olson, who were born near Kalmar, Smoland, Sweden, and they came to the United States in 1886. They located at Chicago where the father conducted a coal and wood business until 1905, in which year the family came to Rockford and the parents live retired, their residence being No. 608 Gregory street. In politics John Olson is a Republican. He and wife belong to Zion Lutheran Church, and are esteemed as excellent people.

Gunard M. Olson spent his boyhood in Chicago, and attended its public schools. His first position with reference to earning money, was with the Chicago American, and he remained with this journal until 1903, when he engaged with the American Insurance Company. After three years, he went with the Barber-Coleman Company, and remained two years. In 1911 he became secretary and treasurer of the Hess Bros. & Co. department store, and three years later, on March 1, 1914, was made its manager. It probably would be difficult to find a man better fitted for the onerous duties Mr. Olson carries, and much of the popularity of this store undoubtedly belongs to Mr. Olson's spirited business campaigns. He is a Republican. Emanuel Lutheran Church holds his membership and for ten years he has been one of its trustees. During his earlier residence at Rockford, Mr. Olson took a trip that embraced a visit to his native land, Norway, Denmark, Germany and England, which was instructive and entertaining. Active, progressive, a hard worker and efficient manager, Mr. Olson deserves his business success and the confidence he inspires.

ORTH, Phillip, was born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, and died in Winnebago County, Ill., in 1896. He came to the United States with his parents, Jacob and Elizabeth Orth, when a young man. The Orth family located in Rock Grove Township, Stephenson County, Ill., when

it was still undeveloped, and there Phillip Orth married Annie Maria Jennewein, who died in 1906. She was a daughter of John Jennewein who came from Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, to Durand Township, Winnebago County, Ill., in 1845, and took up government land in Durand Township and Rock Run Township, Stephenson County. John Jennewein was one of the first settlers in Durand Township. At first he took his farm products to Chicago, one hundred miles distant. The first school was held in his home and he gave the land upon which the first school-house was erected. John Jennewein lived in Durand Township until his death in 1864, when he was sixty-five years old. His wife died a few years before.

Following his marriage, Phillip Orth farmed a part of his father-in-law's property, and then bought eighty acres of land on section 20, Durand Township, and still later eighty acres more, and continued to add to his holdings until he became a heavy landowner. He and his wife had the following children: Mrs. Jacob M. Best, Mary, Alfred, Barbara and Eva, all of whom are deceased; Jacob Lambert, who is living at Shell Rock, Iowa; Frank, who is in Minneapolis, Minn.; Della, who married B. F. Hoover, lives in Stephenson County, Ill., Lottie, who lives in Durand Township, married August Helms; and John, who lives in Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Orth were members of the United Evangelical Church, and most excellent people. In politics Mr. Orth was a Republican, but he did not care for public honors.

OSBORN, Thomas F., foreman of the polishing department of the Schumann Piano Company, and a man of unusual ability and business acumen, was born at Chicago, September 6, 1876. He was educated in the public schools of his native city, and began earning his own living when yet a lad, serving as errand boy for several stores before he began learning the machinist trade at which he worked for two years. He then engaged with the Kimball Piano Company and continued with it for about five years, when he was with George P. Bent of Chicago for two years. Leaving Chicago for Oregon, Ill., he was employed by the Schiller Piano Company for about eight years and then returned to Chicago to engage with the Schumann Piano Company. In about a year thereafter, when the plant was moved to Rockford, Mr. Osborn went with it, and has since continued with it, arriving in the city in 1904. He was then a polisher, and was promoted to his present position five years ago.

Mr. Osborn was married to Tillie Ellis and they had one daughter, Ruby. After the death of the first Mrs. Osborn, Mr. Osborn married (second) Isabell McCormack. Mr. Osborn is a Mason and a member of the order of Ben Hur. Capable and expert, Mr. Osborn understands his business thoroughly, and while safeguarding the interests of his company, looks after his men by whom he is sincerely liked.

OVERHOLT, Earl D., manager of the National Five and Ten Cent Corporation, on Seventh street, Rockford, is one of the enterprising business men of the city. He stands very high in public estimation, and deserves the success he has attained. He was born at Taylorville, Ill., April 20, 1893, a son of Albert and Phoebe (Beaty) Overholt. The parents were born at Chillicothe, Ohio, but later moved to Taylorville, Ill., where the father became chief engineer for the Ora Home Milling Company at that point. He is now living retired. The mother also survives. The father is a Republican in politics, and fraternally belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America.

Earl D. Overholt was reared in his native place and there educated. Going to Chicago, he connected himself with the Woolworth five and ten cent store at the corner of State and Monroe streets, and after eighteen months came to Rockford to become assistant in the store of that concern at the corner of E. State and N. Second streets. After a year, on April 15, 1915, he accepted his present position, and already has justified his choice by the increase in business he has effected.

Mr. Overholt is essentially a self-made man. When a lad he began selling newspapers, saving all he could, and when he had accumulated \$40 he bought an interest in a grocery. Still prudently saving all of his earnings he possibly could, he bought out his partner. In time he sold his business at a profit, and became associated with the Litchfield Creamery Company, and for a year did very well, but he was attracted to the metropolis as a wider business field, and went to Chicago. There has been no wealth back of Mr. Overholt, nor any powerful outside interest; he has simply been industrious, alert and economical, and used excellent judgment in making investments of time and money. He was married November 4, 1915, to Miss Floye Privott of Taylorville, Ill.

PADDEN, Edward, whose agricultural successes make him one of the representative farmers of Guilford Township, was born in this township, October 25, 1861, a son of John and Mary (Ford) Padden, natives of County Mayo, Ireland. Mrs. Padden with two brothers and a sister came to the United States about 1850, and located at Silver Creek, N. Y. A year later they came to Rockford and Mrs. Padden made her home with a Mr. Manning, a jeweler, and his family. Mr. Padden came to the United States in 1852, and was at Scranton, Pa., for a year, when he came to Rockford and worked as a farm hand until 1860, when he married, and bought four acres on section 23, Guilford Township, to which he added twenty-five acres, and still later, four acres. On October 25, 1889, he bought 105 acres on section 24, the same township, and moved to that farm. He remained on it until his death. About 1894 he sold the farm on section 23. In politics he was a Democrat, but never held any offices. The family belonged to the Catholic Church. These parents had four children, as follows: Edward;

Mary, who was born September 2, 1863, married Fred Shackell of Poplar Grove, Ill.; Anna, who was born November 12, 1865, married James Cook of Poplar Grove, Ill.; and John, who lives with his brother Edward, was born September 23, 1869. The father of these children died April 25, 1902, aged seventy-seven years, while the mother died November 3, 1910, aged seventy-five years.

Edward Padden was educated in the schools in his district, and took a two-years' course in a private school at Rockford, conducted by Professor Selby. He has spent his life on the homestead farm, which he and his brother John bought after the death of the mother, and they work it in partnership. Both are unmarried. Edward Padden is a Republican. He has been a member of the township election board for over ten years, but never has aspired to office. He belongs to the Grange, and is an active factor in it. An industrious and thrifty man he has made his influence felt in his neighborhood, and stands very high in public esteem.

PAGE, Dorson D. The city of Rockford has its full share of men who, after many years of active business participation, have stepped aside from the paths of active labor in order to let pass the younger generation with its ambition and enthusiasm. Among those who were long connected with enterprises here is Dorson D. Page, one of his city's well known and highly esteemed citizens, who is now living in comfortable retirement at his pleasant home, No. 1204 Ferguson street.

Mr. Page is a native of Canada, born at Clarksville, near the city of Toronto, July 30, 1842, and is a son of Jonathan and Lamira (Baker) Page, the former a native of Maine and the latter of Massachusetts. They moved to Canada as young married people, but in 1845 returned to the United States and located in Winnebago County, Ill., where the father purchased 160 acres of prairie land and forty acres of timber, in Owen Township, from the government. The family resided on this farm until June, 1854, when they sold out and moved to Winneshiek County, Iowa, where Mr. Page purchased a claim of 240 acres from the government, but this he also sold in 1860 and moved to Mitchell County, Iowa, where he died in January, 1861. Previous to his death he had bought a tract of land in the extreme northeast corner of Iowa, in Allamakee County, and there Mrs. Page moved with the family, taking with them a large herd of cattle, which the son, Dorson D., wintered.

Dorson D. Page had received his education in the public schools of Illinois and Iowa. On June 24, 1862, at Waukon, Iowa, he enlisted in Company B, Second Battalion, Sixteenth Regiment United States Infantry, for service in the Civil war. His command was attached to the Army of the Cumberland, and Mr. Page's military service continued until his honorable discharge, June 24, 1865. The company and regiment had headquarters first at Columbus, Ohio,

from whence they went to Kentucky, and for a time were engaged in pursuing the bushwhackers. After four weeks at Lexington, the command went to Perryville, where it received its baptism of fire, then on to Nashville, being in camp six miles east of that place. On December 27, 1862, the regiment started in the advance on Murfreesboro, driving the Confederate forces to Stone River. The battle started December 31, 1862, and lasted until January 3, 1863, and in this engagement there were twenty-three soldiers from Mr. Page's neighborhood. Among these was a younger brother of Mr. Page, who met his death on the battlefield; and only four of the twenty-three were left alive; and two of these were so injured by gunshot wounds that they were unfit for service. The battle of Stone River was one of the most hotly-contested in the entire war. In Mr. Page's battalion there were 752 men, and in his company ninety-seven men, before the battle; when the sanguinary engagement was finished there were but 250 of the battalion to muster, and twenty-eight of his company. At that battle, Mr. Page, who was then sergeant, was so injured by a fall into a ditch, that he was sent to the hospital at Murfreesboro for eighteen months, but during the latter part of his stay he was able to act in the capacity of steward. He finally rejoined his regiment and company in time for the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, took part in the siege of Atlanta and went on to Jonesboro, where his command assisted in defeating the enemy, and then returned to Atlanta, which had been evacuated by the Confederate forces. The brigade was then sent to Lookout Mountain where it was stationed at the time Mr. Page received his honorable discharge.

Returning to his home in Iowa, Mr. Page remained there until 1866, when he removed to Mankato, Minn., and was married there on July 4 of that year, to Mary Luce, who was born at Addison, Steuben County, N. Y., daughter of Seneca and Caroline Luce, natives of the Empire state. After his marriage Mr. Page returned to Iowa and sold his belongings, and then returned to Mankato, Minn., where he secured employment in the lumber woods and worked that winter. In the following spring they went to Minnesota Lake, but on account of the rainy weather they soon returned to Mankato, and Mr. Page again went into the lumber woods in the winter, although he devoted the summer months to farming. About this time came the great grasshopper scourge, which destroyed all the crops of the locality and caused the county to offer a bounty of ten cents per quart on all grasshoppers caught and delivered to town clerks. All other business was suspended and everyone went grasshopper hunting. The bounty lasted about two weeks at that rate and was then made \$1.00 per bushel, which lasted about five weeks, when it was taken off entirely. On the last day Mr. and Mrs. Page drove out into the fields and during the day secured 31½ bushels of the insects, which they cashed at the town clerk's office for \$31.50. In

the following year Mr. Page moved again into Mankato, where he became a teamster and hauled and sold cord wood, but in 1882 left Minnesota and came to Rockford, Ill., which has since continued to be his home. While he was a resident of Minnesota, on one occasion the James and Younger boys, famous bandits of those days, went to Mankato, took dinner at the American House, and subsequently met Mr. Page, who had been at his timber tract for wood and was traveling with a load. The eight bandits stopped him and engaged him in conversation, which lasted for about an hour, after which they thanked him for his information and moved on without molesting him.

On coming to Rockford, Mr. Page went to work on the water power with O. I. Luce, a brother-in-law, and engaged in making screen doors, mouldings of all kinds and screen windows. He remained as a foreman there for two years, and then became interested in the Co-operative Coal Company, on North Madison street, being connected with that enterprise for three years. Finally he turned his attention to the carpenter trade, and since giving up that vocation has lived in retirement. His pleasant and comfortable home is located at the corner of Ferguson and Loomis streets. Mr. Page is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and of Nevius Post No. 1, Grand Army of the Republic, and in politics is a Republican.

Mr. Page's first wife died July 23, 1903, the mother of four children: Charles, a resident of Springfield, Ill.; Pearley, of Rockford; William, of San Francisco, Cal.; and Mable, who is deceased. Mr. Page was again married August 12, 1914, to Mrs. Caroline (Bauehle) (Bretschneider) Atwood, who was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, and came to Rockford, Ill., in 1875. Her first husband was Gustave Bretschneider, who died in March, 1890, leaving two daughters: Amelia, the wife of William Housman, of Houston, Tex.; and Minnie, the wife of Ray Van Alstine, of Rockford, Ill. Mrs. Bretschneider, in 1894, married George H. Atwood, a Union veteran of the Civil war, who died in 1910.

PATTERSON, James M., a prosperous farmer of section 33, Burrit Township, is also interested in the Winnebago Lumber & Supply Company. He was born in Owen Township, this county, March 8, 1856, a son of John M. and Lillian (Stephenson) Patterson, the former born in Scotland in 1834 and the latter in 1838.

John M. Patterson came to the United States in 1849 and lived at New York City for a time, after which he made his way westward to Illinois and settled at Rockford, where he spent a year. He then took up his abode in Owen Township, and lived there for many years, following farming. He was married in Owen Township, to Lillian Stephenson, who came to Owen Township in 1855. She died at St. Paul, Minn., in September, 1900. Their children were as follows: James M.; Nettie, who was born in November, 1857, married Joseph Brewster

and resides in Rockford; Jennie, who was born in April, 1860, married J. W. Stocks, and is residing at Freeport, Ill.; Andrew, who was born in June, 1863, is residing on the old homestead in Owen Township; John, who was born August 21, 1865, is a farmer of Owen Township; and Lillie, who was born in 1867, married Robert Geddes of Stillman Valley, Ill.

James M. Patterson spent his boyhood very uneventfully in the country, but in attending the public schools secured an excellent practical education. Under his father's direction he became familiar with all of the work of the fields so that he was prepared for farming when he started out in life on his own account. He lived in his native township until twenty-six years old, at which time he moved to Ogle County, Ill., and lived for eight years, and then located on his present farm in Burrit Township, where he now owns 160 acres of land which is carefully cultivated according to modern methods. He has followed farming practically all his life, and in his work is systematic. His labors have been attended by success because of his close application and untiring industry, and he is now one of the prosperous agriculturalists of his community. He also has other business interests, being financially connected with the Winnebago Lumber & Supply Company, a stock concern comprising fifty farmers of the neighborhood.

On October 29, 1884, Mr. Patterson was married in Winnebago, Ill., to Miss Barbara Hill, daughter of Donald and Agnes Hill, early residents of Winnebago Township. She was born September 17, 1858. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have the following children: John, who was born August 29, 1886; William, who was born March 9, 1888; Ralph, who was born September 25, 1890; and Donald, who was born September 22, 1897, all of whom are at home except William, who married Rosa Staffman, and they have a daughter, Ellen Beatrice.

Mr. Patterson is a member of Winnebago Lodge No. 745, A. F. & A. M. He and his wife belong to the Second Congregational Church, and are large contributors to its good work. He was clerk of the town school board and held that office for the past twelve years. A successful, progressive and enterprising man he deserves all his prosperity and stands very high in public esteem.

PATTISON, Harry A., M. D., a physician and surgeon who is a credit to his profession and locality, has offices at No. 705 Trust building, Rockford, and stands very high in public esteem. He was born at Astoria, Long Island, N. Y., June 2, 1877, a son of Charles S. and Ellen F. (Cressy) Pattison. The father was born in Vermont, and the mother in New Hampshire. The father had charge of the drilling on the Illinois and Michigan Canal for a time, but later returned to New York, where he had charge of the dredging of the East River, at Hell Gate. Still later he was connected with the construction of the Hoosac tunnel, at North Adams,

Mass. In 1912 he came to Rockford, where he is now living retired with his son, Dr. Pattison. The mother, on account of delicate health, is living in California. In politics the father is a Republican.

Harry A. Pattison attended the public schools of New England, Mt. Hermon school in Massachusetts, and in 1899 matriculated at the Chicago Homeopathic College, from which he was graduated in 1904. For the next five years he practiced at Benld, Ill., when he took a post graduate course at the University of Illinois, and was graduated from the medical department in 1910, when he came to Rockford, and has since remained here engaged in an active general practice.

In 1905 Dr. Pattison was married to Miss Florence Street, a daughter of John A. and Delia (Phelps) Street, natives of Lancaster, Wis. The father was a lawyer and later a judge of the circuit bench in Salt Lake City, Utah. Still later he went to Chicago, where he is now general counsel for the Mascott Copper Company. Dr. and Mrs. Pattison have two children, namely: Helen S. and Francis E.

Dr. Pattison is a Mason and a member of the order of Eastern Star. He belongs to Winnebago Chapter of Elks, the University Club, the Unity Club, of which he is a trustee, is secretary of the board of trustees of the Rockford Tuberculosis Sanitarium, and a member of its executive committee. On July 27, 1915, he was appointed a member of the Illinois Conference of Charities and Correction. He is county physician, a director of the Boys' and Girls' Exposition, and a member of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce. It may thus be seen that he is a man of considerable importance professionally and otherwise. The family residence is at No. 1030 Ridge avenue, Rockford.

PAUL, Ira O., M. D., a well known physician of Winnebago County, and a skillful practitioner at Rockford, was born at Brookville, Ogle County, Ill., July 24, 1860. Little is known of his ancestry, beyond the fact that his paternal grandfather was Valentine Paul, a native of Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, who settled in the anthracite coal regions of Pennsylvania, probably about the beginning of the nineteenth century. Dr. Paul's parents, Michael and Mary (Shierk) Paul, were both natives of Pennsylvania who became pioneers of Ogle County, Ill., when they located in the town of Brookville in 1852. Michael Paul bought eighty acres of land for \$10 per acre, on which he made all the improvements, and subsequently added to his possessions until he had accumulated 320 acres on which he resided until his death, January 5, 1913, when he was eighty-five years old. Of his family of four children, Dr. Paul is the only surviving member. The others were: Josiah W., Simon and Franklin.

Ira O. Paul was reared to manhood on the homestead, receiving his educational training in the high school of Polo, and the Northwestern College, at Naperville, Ill., from which he was

graduated. In 1882 he entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Chicago, and was graduated therefrom March 25, 1885. In July of that same year, Dr. Paul began the practice of his profession at Leaf River, Ill., three years later removing to Penrose, Ill., and after eighteen months in that hamlet, in 1890 located at Winnebago, Ill., where he built up a large practice. On October 26, 1915, he moved to Rockford, Ill., and has his well appointed office at No. 407 Trust Building.

Dr. Paul was married June 2, 1887, to Alice, a daughter of John H. and Sarah (Willier) Hammond, of Leaf River, and they have two children: Arquilla Ariel and Ethel Loretta. Dr. Paul belongs to the Winnebago County and the Illinois State Medical societies. He is a member of Winnebago Lodge No. 245, A. F. & A. M., of which he is past master, having served as master for five years; Rockford Chapter No. 24, R. A. M.; Rockford Commandery No. 17, K. T.; Freeport Consistory; Rockford Lodge No. 64, B. P. O. of E.; the Germania Society of Rockford; the L. O. M.; and White Oak Camp No. 59, M. W. A. He organized the local chapter of the Eastern Star at Winnebago, and was its first patron. Politically he has always been a Republican of the stalwart type, and takes an active interest in the success of the party. During his residence at Winnebago he held many offices, including that of mayor and justice of the peace, serving in the latter position for several terms. Dr. Paul is a genial, courteous gentleman, an able physician, and a public spirited as well as enterprising citizen.

PAULSEN, Peter. The realty men of Rockford have not only placed the people of this section under obligations to them for their effective work in building a large city, but to the public at large in attracting here those who, under ideal conditions, could invest their capital of either money or labor, and in the end reap gratifying results. One of the enterprising real estate dealers who belongs to this class is Peter Paulsen.

Peter Paulsen was born at Fleisburg, Germany, June 20, 1869, a son of Peter and Christena (Honsen) Paulsen. When he was five years old he was brought to the United States by his parents, who located at Waterford, Wis., and there the mother died at the birth of twin infants, when Peter was nine years old. Two years later he lost his father, who was killed in a railroad wreck at Burlington, Wis. The boy was then taken by strangers. Being an independent little fellow, he decided to make his own way in the world, and with his belongings done up in a red handkerchief, he walked to Milwaukee, Wis., and there obtained work doing chores for his board and a little money. Although his wages were meagre, he was very thrifty, and in time managed to save \$300. He then engaged with the Wisconsin Bridge Works to drive rivets for a year, when he engaged in bridge construction work, and later he was able to do contract work for his company at \$5 per

day, acting as their superintendent as well, and was with them for eight years. His next experience was as a traveling salesman for a company handling artificial limbs, and subsequently he located at Rockford, and established an artificial limb factory. After some twenty months he went to San Francisco and established a similar establishment there on Market street, but sold it in nine months for \$5,000 cash, and then traveled for the firm for several months, when he returned to Rockford, and once more engaged in the manufacture of artificial limbs. After being alone for a year, he took A. E. Block into co-partnership with him, and eighteen months later sold Mr. Block the other half interest for \$1,000. Mr. Paulsen then went into the real estate business and has continued in this line ever since, being very successful in handling property, specializing in western lands and local realty. He has built and sold many houses, and has instituted and carried out a number of important local improvements. A member of the Rockford Real Estate Board, he has held some of its offices. He belongs to the Home Fraternal League. While a member of the German Lutheran Church, he attends the Methodist.

In 1898 Mr. Paulsen was married to Cornelia Estella Grover, a daughter of Edwin R. Grover, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Paulsen have no children.

PEAKE, Laomi, page 660.

PENFIELD, David S., page 658.

PENFIELD, John Giddings, whose realty holdings in Rockford and vicinity are very extensive, is a representative man of Winnebago County, and one who stands very high in public estimation. He was born at Pittsford, Rutland County, Vt., June 9, 1824, a son of Sturgis and Laura (Giddings) Penfield, natives of Fairfield, Conn., and Sherman, Conn. The father was a farmer in early life, but later became the owner of a gristmill and subsequently embarked in the manufacture of woolen goods. He was also interested in the hat trade, and was a man of much enterprise.

John Giddings Penfield worked on a farm in his boyhood, but later assisted his father in his milling enterprise, selling cotton and woolen goods through New England, so continuing until April, 1854, when he came to Rockford, and embarked in a real estate business and since then has been interested along this line. He platted Gregory's addition, which included property amounting to 160 acres along the present Seventh street, and also handled an undivided interest in the Riverside addition. He was also interested in the South Park on the east side of Rock River and operated in partnership with his brother, David S. Penfield, now deceased. Among other pieces of property, Mr. Penfield owned ten acres of land called Large Park, a lot south of South Park lot. At one time he was in partnership with Benjamin F. Spaulding, but later this connection was dissolved. Mr. Pen-

field has always loaned money on realty and retains holdings in Rockford and its vicinity that are very valuable.

In October, 1856, Mr. Penfield was married to Mary Elizabeth Crosby, born at Troy, N. H., in 1832, a daughter of Alpheus and Mary (Fox) Crosby, natives of Troy, N. H. Mr. and Mrs. Penfield became the parents of the following children: Helen M., who is the widow of E. M. Revell, had three children; Constance E., who is deceased; Mildred and Edwin M.; Fannie H., who is Mrs. C. E. Shelton, of Rockford, her husband being manager of the western department of the American Insurance Company of New Jersey; and Katherine C., who lives with her father. Mrs. Penfield died July 20, 1901.

It is a source of pride to Mr. Penfield that he was present at the convention that re-nominated Abraham Lincoln for the presidency. In addition to other enterprises in which Mr. Penfield has been interested was the Briggs, Spafford & Penfield Bank of Rockford, operated by him and his brother. A man of unusual business ability, Mr. Penfield has always striven to improve his community and bring about reforms calculated to raise its moral tone.

PENFIELD, Samuel Franklin, who for many years was an important factor in the business life of Rockford, won fairly and honorably the reputation he sustained for uprightness of dealing and keenness of judgment. Mr. Penfield was born at Pittsford, Vt., January 13, 1822.

About 1858 Mr. Penfield came to Rockford, Ill., and in partnership with his two brothers, David S. and J. G., established a real estate and insurance business. Later he and his son George branched out and added the handling of fire insurance to their other lines. Mr. Penfield was a deacon in the First Congregational Church of Rockford for many years and very active in church work.

On December 10, 1851, Mr. Penfield was married at Pawlet, Vt., to Lemira B. Clark, who was born at Pawlet, January 22, 1834. Mr. and Mrs. Penfield became the parents of the following children: George Franklin, who died at Oakland, Cal., February 21, 1911; Charles Seymour, who died at San Antonio, Tex., March 30, 1912; Edward Martin, who died at Los Angeles, Cal., December 21, 1910; Robert Sturgis, who died when nine years of age; Mabel Stewart, who is Mrs. A. O. Wilson, of St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Penfield died at Rockford, January 3, 1896. Mrs. Penfield survives and lives at St. Louis, Mo.

PENNEY, Julius A., who, for a number of years was a leading factor in the mercantile life of Rockford, but is now deceased, was born at London, England, February 21, 1827, a son of Thomas and Sarah Penney, both of whom were also born at London. There they married, and he became a prosperous dry goods merchant of that great metropolis. Both he and his wife passed away in London.

In early manhood Julius A. Penney left London for the United States, carrying with him

letters of recommendation to firms in New York City, but being very anxious to enter into business in the West, came to Rockford, Ill., where he obtained employment with the Samuel Withrow Company, dry goods merchants, but within a short time left to embark in a grocery business with his father-in-law, Thomas Anyon. Having acquired valuable experience in this connection, Mr. Penney associated himself with the Ashton Drygoods Company of Rockford, and continued with that firm for nearly thirty years, becoming its vice president, serving in that capacity at the time of his retirement. Mr. Penney and Mr. Brantingham of the Emmerson-Brantingham Manufacturing Co., were the closest of friends, the latter having served as book-keeper under Mr. Penney while he was with the Ashton Dry Goods Co. In 1914 Mr. Penney died, passing away at his residence at No. 214 Rockford avenue, Rockford, at the age of eighty-seven years. Mr. Penney left a great many friends who felt his loss. He was one of the oldest Odd Fellows in the state of Illinois. In politics he was a Democrat. In religious faith he belonged to the Independent Church.

In 1862 Mr. Penney was married to Sarah Anyon, a daughter of Thomas and Catherine (Stewart) Anyon, of Rockford, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Penney became the parents of a daughter, Catherine Sarah, now Mrs. Collver, who is living with her mother, and has three children, namely: Eugenie, Julius Penney, and Stewart.

Thomas Anyon, father of Mrs. Penney, was born in England where he married a native of England. In 1852 they sailed for the United States on the steamer American Congress. They came from New York City to Chicago by rail, and thence to Rockford by stage, stopping at the old Brown Hotel. After Mr. Anyon had acquainted himself with the soil in various localities in the county, he bought a farm of 160 acres in Rockford Township, on the Wolff Grove road, from a Mr. Hyde. Mr. Anyon improved this property and lived on it for three years, when he moved to Rockford, and bought the old stone house on Rockton avenue, near where his widowed daughter, Mrs. Penney, now lives. Here he lived retired until his death in 1878, at the age of eighty-six years. His wife died at the age of sixty-nine years, in 1869. Their children were as follows: Thomas, who was a soldier in the Civil war, died at Rockford in 1863; Susan, who is now living at Phoenix, Ariz.; Emily, who is a widow is now living in Pecatonica Township, this county; Sarah, who is Mrs. Penney; John Henry, who died in 1901; and Matilda, who died in 1892.

PEPPER, Dewitt Clinton, who for some years was a resident of Rockford, and prior to that took an active part in agricultural matters in the county, was born in Cherry Valley Township, in a log cabin, February 17, 1840, a son of William and Mary (Hatfield) Pepper, natives of Virginia and New Jersey. These parents came to Winnebago County at an early day, securing land in Cherry Valley Township.

When Dewitt C. Pepper was one year old the family moved on the old Pepper homestead in southeast Rockford, and on it he grew to manhood, and attended the schools in his district. He resided on the old Pepper farm until 1875, when he bought a farm in Scott Township, Ogle County, Ill., and conducted it for thirty years, then retired, and moving to Rockford bought a modern frame house at No. 425 Jilton avenue. His farm of 120 acres is now rented. Mr. Pepper died December 28, 1914. He belonged to the Court Street Methodist Church of Rockford, and prior to that was connected with the church of the same denomination at Davis Junction, serving on its official board. A Democrat, Mr. Pepper served his township as supervisor. He was one of the charter members of Black Hawk Camp No. 51 of Stillman Valley, Ill., M. W. A., and was popular in that order as he was in the outside world.

On December 15, 1869, Mr. Pepper was married to Delia V. Kimbell, born in Byron Township, Ogle County, Ill., May 21, 1850, a daughter of Pardon Y. and Amanda (Salsbury) Kimbell, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts. Mr. Kimbell came to Rockford and entered a claim where Camp Fulton was later located, which is now covered with handsome residences, but soon sold and went to Byron, and with two comrades lived on his land. He then took up a pre-emption claim, but in 1869 he returned to the East, and farmed there for a number of years. Still later he sold and came back to Rockford, where he lived for some time and then bought Sam Holton's farm. Subsequently he went to Missouri and bought a farm, conducting it until he again returned to Rockford. His last change was made when he went to Elsmore, Cal., where he died in 1902. His wife died in 1857. Their children were: Eugenia, who is Mrs. Henry Hunt of Monrovia, Cal.; Amina, who also lives at Monrovia, Cal.; Myron, who lives at San Miguel, Cal.; Mrs. Pepper; Eva, who is Mrs. Miles Fickes, of Shirland, Ill.; and Ida, who is Mrs. Milton Davis, of New Haven, Ind.

Mr. and Mrs. Pepper became the parents of the following children: Grace E., who lives with her mother; Catherine, who is Mrs. George Bennett of North avenue, Rockford; Blanche L., who is Mrs. Harry Woodburn of Byron Township, Ogle County, Ill.; Ray D., who lives at Chicago; and Homer, who also resides at Chicago, married Susanna Smith and they have three children, Homer, Adelle and Frank. Mrs. Pepper attended the public schools, and Smith's private school of Rockford. She taught school in Winnebago and Ogle counties for three years prior to her marriage, and her mother was the first teacher in Ogle County, Ill. The Pepper and Kimbell families are very well known and universally respected in this locality.

PEPPER, William. It took courage in the early days to make investments in Winnebago County land, but the foresight of those pioneers who showed confidence in the future has resulted

in large gains for their descendants, many of whom are now wealthy because those who went before appreciated the advantages here offered. One of the men who came here at an early day and bought land that has since become exceedingly valuable, was the late William Pepper of Rockford. He was born at Leesburg, Va., in 1808.

Leaving home in young manhood, William Pepper went first to Laporte, Ind., where he entered land from the government and lived on it until 1836, when he came to Rockford, Ill., and entered land in what is now the south-eastern part of the city, and the entire 160 acres which he then bought is now included in the city proper. This land was all platted and sold for residence and factory purposes long ago, excepting ten acres, which was held at \$1,200 per acre, and which have since been sold. Mr. Pepper was an intelligent man, having been carefully educated, not only in the private schools of his native state, but in college as well, and he was an important factor at Rockford until his death, which occurred in November, 1866. In religious faith he was a Methodist. Politically he was a Democrat.

In 1836 Mr. Pepper was married to Mary Hatfield, who died in 1896, and they were the parents of eight children, all of whom are deceased excepting Anna E., who is the youngest. Mrs. Pepper was a granddaughter of General Hatfield, who was prominent in the War of 1812. As long as her mother lived, Miss Anna made her home with her, and then she lived with her brother, Charles B. With his demise, she rented the family residence at No. 1015 First avenue, with the stipulation that she board with the family, and there she makes her home. She is a lady of many virtues and is highly esteemed by the people of Rockford, both on her own account and also because she belongs to one of the old pioneer families of Winnebago County.

PEPPER, William A., who, during his lifetime was one of the successful business men of Rockford, was a native of the city, having been born here April 30, 1847, a son of William A. and Mary (Hatfield) Pepper, who were among the first settlers of Rockford. They located on a farm in what was then but a wilderness, but was afterwards included in the city limits.

William A. Pepper attended the schools of Rockford, and lived with his parents until 1878 when he began working on a farm. In 1881 he embarked in business at Rockford, and continued to conduct his own concern for twenty-five years. He built a fine brick building on S. Main street, and later bought a valuable brick block at No. 215 S. Church street, which is now rented for business purposes. After buying a residence at No. 1901 S. Main street, Mr. Pepper remodeled it, making it one of the most desirable ones in the city, and there he died August 2, 1911. Mrs. Pepper continues to reside here. In 1906 Mr. Pepper retired from busi-

ness and from then on until his death he took life easily.

On October 16, 1878, Mr. Pepper was married to Mary McCourt, born at Dyersville, Iowa, a daughter of Henry and Ann (Ford) McCourt, natives of Ireland, who married in New York state, and then came to Rockford, which city they later left for Iowa. Mr. McCourt was a civil engineer. He died at St. Charles, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Pepper became the parents of two children: Carrie, who is the widow of Earl Gay, and lives with her mother; and Lillian, who married C. S. Bather, secretary of the Manufacturers and Shippers Association, lives at No. 1925 S. Main street, Rockford. In politics Mr. Pepper was a Democrat, but did not desire any public office.

PERRY, Seely. The records of Rockford are filled with the names of enterprising, zealous and capable men who through the application of energy and foresight to their business interests, developed into substantial citizens, and among them is that of the late Seely Perry. He was born at Stockbridge, Mass., August 10, 1822, a son of Ezra and Anna (Ball) Perry, natives of Massachusetts, where the former was engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Seely Perry was graduated from Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., and immediately thereafter opened a boys' training school near Lexington, Ky., which he conducted successfully for several years. About 1849 he came to Winnebago County, Ill., and taught school at Rockton. In 1851 he started a boys' training school, in the basement of the Methodist church, Rockford, and as he was a born teacher, and well educated, not only in English, but the classics, he made a success of his undertaking. However, he was forced to leave this profession on account of ill health, and became interested in the lumber business, his being one of the first of the lumber yards in this city. The firm became Perry & Reber, and in 1890 was consolidated with Lawler & Keeler, as the Rockford Lumber and Fuel Company of which Mr. Perry was the first president, so continuing until his death occurred September 14, 1900. He came from Revolutionary stock from both sides of the family, and was proud of his ancestry. The Congregational church held his membership, and he served it as a member of the building committee, and was president of the board of trustees. A Democrat, he was a member of the city council for several terms, and for one term was mayor of Rockford, displaying exceptional zeal in the discharge of his public duties. A Mason, he served the Blue Lodge as master for many years, and he was also a Knight Templar. Mr. Perry was twice married, his first wife having been Mary Elizabeth Benedict of Verona, N. Y. They had two children, namely: Lewis S., who is deceased; and Mary E., who is Mrs. Philip N. Moore of St. Louis, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have two children, Elizabeth and Perry.

On March 16, 1876, Mr. Perry married Marie

Thompson, born near London, Canada, a daughter of James Thompson and Sarah (Schnurr) Thompson, the former a native of New Salem, Mass. Mr. Thompson went to Canada where he married, and was there engaged in conducting different factories until 1842 when he came to Roscoe, Winnebago County, Ill. There he built the first woolen mill west of Detroit, Mich., and imported weavers from England. The death of this enterprising pioneer occurred in 1853. Mr. and Mrs. Perry who were married at La Crosse, Wis., had one daughter, Marie T., who is Mrs. Walter A. Forbes of No. 633 N. Main street, Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Forbes have two children, namely, Alexander Duncan and Seely Perry.

An interesting bit of family history is related by Mrs. Perry relative to her mother's capability. When Mr. Thompson migrated to Roscoe, he left his wife and nine children in Canada until he could prepare a suitable home for them, when Mrs. Thompson disposed of the business interests, and with a train of five wagons came across the wilderness from London, Canada, to Illinois. Among others with her was a faithful negro, a servant in the family for over sixty years, who died at Joliet, Ill., while living with Major Thompson.

Mrs. Perry is a charter member of the Monday Club, which was organized in 1877, and has served it at different times as president. She was the first president of the City Aid Society, which was organized in 1876; was the first working president of the Needlework Guild; and was the first president of the federation of clubs which afterward developed into the Woman's Club, of which she was at one time president. Mrs. Perry also belongs to the Mendelssohn Club, and she organized the Winnebago Farm School in her own house, and has been the only president of it. In every respect she is a progressive, live and very intellectual lady, one whose appreciation of her responsibilities is keen, and whose capability is unquestioned. She is one of the best examples of the enlightened modern woman that can be found in Winnebago County. (See page 704.)

PERSON, William, vice president of the Rockford Bookcase Company and vice president of the Rockford Cabinet Company, is one of the men of large means whose commendable efforts have been directed towards the upbuilding and development of Rockford's industrial supremacy. He was born in Sweden, June 3, 1867, and there educated. During his younger days he alternated working on a farm with cabinet-making, and then seeing no future to satisfy himself in his native land, he came to the United States, and locating at Rockford, found ready employment as a cabinetmaker with the Central Furniture Company for two years. He then went with the Rockford Cabinet Company as a mechanic and cabinetmaker, and rose to be its superintendent, so serving from 1902 to 1909. When the company was incorporated, he became its vice president. He is recognized as

an expert in his line. In addition to owning stock in the two above mentioned companies, Mr. Person owns stock in the Haddorff Piano Company, the Rockford Varnish Company and the Rockford Light Furniture Company, all these business organizations being large employers of labor.

On August 17, 1892, Mr. Person was married at Rockford, to Anna H. Henderson, born in Sweden. Their children are as follows: Henry W., who married Ruth Thompson; Fred C.; Elmer R.; and George, who died in infancy. Mr. Person belongs to the Salem Lutheran Church. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Person's career is an illustration of the certain fact that any man can succeed in life if he be willing to labor and save, and to wisely invest the results of his thrift. Many may well profit by his example.

PETERS, Peter, one of the substantial agriculturalists now living retired at Pecatonica, Ill., gained considerable prominence from his farming operations in days gone by. He was born in Hanover, Germany, February 4, 1842, a son of Ulford and Anna (Gordon) Peters, both of whom never left Germany and died there. Peter Peters is the only survivor of his family.

Upon his arrival in the United States, Peter Peters located in Winnebago County, Ill., but in 1871 left for California and spent four years in that state working by the month. He saved his money and invested in land, some of it in Stephenson County, Ill., but after his return from California, he made Winnebago County his place of residence. His present farm is located three miles west of Pecatonica, but he has retired from its conduct and has not operated it for the past ten years.

In 1875 Mr. Peters was married to Miss Wilhelmína Hanburg, born in Germany July 6, 1851. Her parents came to America in 1875, and both are now deceased, the father passing away about thirty-five years ago, and the mother in 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Peters have two children: Mrs. Anna Myers, who was born April 1, 1880, lives at Pecatonica; and Mrs. Martha Wismark, who was born August 10, 1883, lives three miles west of Pecatonica. The grandchildren in the family are as follows: May, William, Carl, Betta, Peter, Tillie, Hannah and Katie.

In politics Mr. Peters is a Republican, and has served as a school director for several years, and also as road commissioner. He belongs to the German Lutheran Church of Pecatonica, and is justly regarded as one of the reliable men of the county, and one deserving of respect.

PETERSON, A. T., securely established as a dealer in kodaks and photographic supplies, is one of the representative business men of Rockford. His store at No. 100 W. State street is headquarters for those who make the taking of pictures and their development a source of pleasure, as well as of those who are photographers by profession. Mr. Peterson was born at Nerikie, Sweden, March 19, 1878, a son of A. E. and

Caroline Peterson, who were also born there. They came to the United States in 1890, locating at Rockford, where the father is engaged in business. The family residence is No. 424 Longwood street. In politics the father is a Republican.

A. T. Peterson was twelve years old when his parents brought him to Rockford. Although but a lad he was ambitious and soon secured a position with the Rockford Desk Company, leaving that concern after a short period to go with the Central Furniture Company. After eighteen months he was employed by the Rockford Silverplate Company and remained with that company for sixteen years, when he bought out O. H. Wheat, in the Ashton building, dealer in kodaks and photographic supplies. For three years and three months he was located at this point, and then moved his stock to his present place of business, where he enjoys a large and constantly increasing trade.

On May 21, 1903, in Rockford, Mr. Peterson married Miss H. O. Johnston, born January 14, 1880, a daughter of John A. and Hedda K. Johnston, of Sweden, who never left their native land. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have a son, Harry T., born January 28, 1905. Mr. Peterson belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Masons. An alert, practical business man, Mr. Peterson has worked his own way to the front from boyhood, and he is held in highest esteem because of his many excellent qualities.

PETERSON, Fred, secretary and manager of a Rockford concern that has a country-wide reputation for the manufacture of wood-boring and hollow-mortising tools, operated under the name of the Forest City Bit & Tool Company, is generally recognized as one of the foremost business men of the city, and is one who has reached his present position through honorable effort, intelligently directed. Mr. Peterson was born September 3, 1872, a son of Gust and Johauna (Jones) Peterson, who came to Rockford in 1883, and lived on Kishwaukee street.

After attending the public schools of Rockford, Fred Peterson took a course at Rockford Business College, from which he was graduated in 1900. Following this he became bookkeeper for the Forest City Furniture Company, and in May, 1902, became associated with the Forest City Bit & Tool Company as secretary and manager, and has held these important positions ever since. This company was organized August 20, 1890, by August P. Floberg, Andrew Holland, P. G. Rappson, Oscar J. F. Larson and Thor Munthe, with a capital of \$25,000. The plant is located at Nos. 1208, 1210 and 1212 Kishwaukee street, and it is an interesting fact that Mr. Peterson's residence and all his business connections at Rockford have been associated with this street. Employment in the above plant is given to thirty-six men, all of whom are skilled mechanics. The floor space covers 35,000 feet, embracing the forging room and machine shop, the offices being in a separate building. Since Mr. Peterson assumed charge, the affairs

have been in a very flourishing condition, and the volume of the output has increased in quantity and quality.

On June 19, 1901, Mr. Peterson was married to Hilda C. Stromberg of Dayton, Iowa, a daughter of Gust and Anna Marie (Gunarson) Stromberg. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have three children, namely: Hazel M., Armour F., and Gordon S., all of whom are at home. Mr. Peterson is a member of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford, and has been a trustee for six years. A Mason in high standing, Mr. Peterson has attained to the thirty-second degree, and is also a Shriner. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Pythias, and the Royal Arcanum. A man of persistence, he has kept steadily on in the same line of endeavor, and has sought to give his house the result of his knowledge and business ability, with very gratifying results both to himself and those with whom he is associated.

PETERSON, George H., bookkeeper and a stockholder of the Rockford Frame & Fixture Company, and recording secretary of the board of stockholders of this same company, is one of the foremost business men of Rockford, as well as one of its public-spirited citizens. He was born at Rockford, April 22, 1893, and was educated in the city's grade and high schools, being graduated from the latter institution in the class of 1911. His first business experience was gained with the Insurance Company of the State of Illinois, but he left this company in a short time to go with Peterson Bros., contractors, and remained with that firm for a year. In 1912 Mr. Peterson assumed the duties of clerk for the Rockford Frame & Fixture Company, becoming its bookkeeper in 1913, and has continued to hold this position ever since.

Mr. Peterson is unmarried and lives with his parents at No. 1427 Fourth avenue. He belongs to the Black Hawk, Canoe and Pioneer Athletic clubs, and is very fond of outdoor sports, and is proficient in them. He belongs to Zion Lutheran Church of Rockford. In politics he is a Republican. Alert, enthusiastic, and experienced, Mr. Peterson is a valuable man to his company, and his services receive due recognition from the officials above him.

PETERSON, Gust A., foreman of the Player Piano department of the Schumann Piano Company, of Rockford, with residence at No. 1307 Fifteenth avenue, Rockford, is one of the best known men in his line of work. He was born in Sweden, January 15, 1872, and came to the United States in 1889. His first stop was Chicago, where he began working for the Cottage Organ Company, although he was a moulder, having learned this trade in his native land where he had also secured his educational training. After one year with the Cottage Organ Company, he entered the employ of the Kimball Company, pipe and reed organs, and remained seven years. After this he was with the George P. Banks Piano Company and remained three

years. From that concern he went to the Cable Piano Company for a short time, leaving to work for the Schumann Piano Company while the plant was still located at Chicago. When the plant was moved to Rockford in 1904, Mr. Peterson went with the company, and in 1912 was made foreman of his present department. He had been working in the side-gluing and fly-finishing departments prior to his promotion, and is an all-round efficient man.

Mr. Peterson was married to Johanna Moback and their children are as follows: Victor, Anna, Oscar, Arthur, Thura and Ruby, all of whom are at home. Mr. Peterson belongs to the Swedish Baptist Church and is in high standing in that organization as he is in his neighborhood, for he possesses many desirable characteristics.

PETERSON, Oscar F., whose business activities find expression in the conduct of a flourishing clothing and shoe store at No. 1014 Fourteenth avenue, is one of the substantial business men of Rockford. He was born in this city, September 7, 1886, a son of Carl and Christine (Gronberg) Peterson. Carl Peterson was born in Sweden, and came to the United States with his mother in 1884, locating at Rockford. He obtained work in a furniture factory, but only remained there a short time, soon engaging in a retail milk business which he conducted for a number of years. Subsequently he rented a farm in Guilford Township, and conducted it for two years, and then went to a farm in Harlem Township, conducting its 184 acres for five years. Moving back to Rockford, he took charge of all the teaming for the Free Sewing Machine Company and still holds this position. The family residence is at No. 1609 Eighth street. In politics he is a Republican.

Oscar F. Peterson spent his boyhood at Rockford, where he attended its public schools. Upon finishing his education he took a position with the Free Sewing Machine Company, and held it for two years, and then became associated in the clothing, sporting goods and confectionery business with his brother, Frank A. Peterson, at No. 1026 Fourteenth avenue. After two years, however, he sold and assisted his father on the farm in Harlem Township, remaining on the farm for seven years. Coming back to Rockford, he embarked in his present business, which he has developed into a fine one.

On February 8, 1911, Mr. Peterson was married to Miss Edith E. Butterworth, a daughter of John and Anna (Castle) Butterworth, farmers, of Boone County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Butterworth are of English descent, and came from England to the United States in early life, and are still living in Boone County. Mr. Peterson, like his father, is a Republican. Fraternally he belongs to the order of Moose. A live, enterprising man, he enjoys a fine trade and his commercial rating is excellent.

PETERSON, Pehr August. When future generations review the history of Rockford and Winnebago County, they will find that during

the period he has lived in this vicinity there has been no more able and vigorous business man than Pehr August Peterson, for he dominates many lines of industry. He was born in Sweden, September 8, 1846, a son of Peter and Inga Maria (Brissman) Peterson, natives of Sweden. The father was a tailor by trade.

In 1852 Pehr A. Peterson came to the United States and for the following four years lived at Rockford, but in 1856 moved to Cherry Valley Township, where the succeeding six years were spent. He then moved to a farm in the township by the same name as the village and remained on it until the spring of 1875, when he returned to Rockford to engage in the manufacture of furniture. The Union Furniture Company was founded in February, 1876, and since its inception has shown a healthy and steady increase with each succeeding year. In addition to the production of furniture this company also produces articles in various lines, including those of iron, wood and glass. Mr. Peterson is also connected with other concerns which manufacture many of the articles which have made Rockford known all over the world as a producing center, and his connection with them is a guarantee of their stability and the quality of their goods. These plants show a growth in value and importance with each year, and improvements and additions are made each season.

On April 8, 1903, Mr. Peterson was married at Marinette, Wis., to Ida Mae Anderson, born at that place, July 21, 1871. A Lutheran by training and belief, Mr. Peterson has been a valued member of Trinity Lutheran Church of Rockford for many years. While he has not entered upon a political life, Mr. Peterson takes an intelligent interest in public affairs, and casts his vote for the candidates of the Republican party. Essentially a business man, Mr. Peterson has bent his energies to the development of commercial conditions at Rockford, and is rightly recognized as one of the leading representatives of the manufacturing interests of this part of the country.

PETERSON, W. A., proprietor and manager of the Peterson Clothing Company of Rockford, at Nos. 1141 and 1143 Fourteenth avenue, is one of the substantial and reliable business men of the South End. He was born in Westergotland, Sweden, March 2, 1855, a son of John and Christine Peterson. John Peterson and his wife were born in the same place as their son, and they were married there. The father became a farmer. They lived there until 1866 when they set sail for the United States, and upon their arrival in this country located in Mason County, Ill., where the father bought a farm and conducted it until he retired. He died on this farm in 1885, aged seventy-five years. The mother survived, dying in 1901, aged eighty-eight years. The father was a Republican. He was a member of the State Lutheran Church in Sweden.

W. A. Peterson spent his boyhood in his

native land and was there educated. Coming to the United States in 1869, he located at Havana, Mason County, Ill., where he found employment as a tailor, having learned this trade in Sweden, and continued in that place until 1885 when he came to Rockford and started in business for himself as a merchant tailor on Seventh street, where he remained until 1907. He then erected a building on Fourteenth avenue and Ninth street, to which he moved his business and remained there until February 1, 1914, when he sold the building and erected his present brick block, three stories in height, with a frontage of 44 feet, which is one of the finest on Fourteenth avenue. After this block was completed, Mr. Peterson moved his business to it, and is enjoying a very profitable trade. He has taken his two sons, W. O. and E. A. Peterson, into partnership with him, the three forming the company which is operated under their name. In politics Mr. Peterson is a Republican. His rise in the world has come about through his own efforts. He received no outside assistance, but kept on working and saving, and wisely invested his earnings and now is ranked among the leading business men of his locality.

PETRIE, John. Rockford numbers among its most representative residents men who have retired from the activities of life, and are now enjoying the comforts their former industry has provided for them. One of these is John Petrie, a retired carpenter, of No. 1703 W. State street. He was born in Oneida County, N. Y., May 22, 1844, a son of John and Catherine (Pease) Petrie, natives of Germany, who were married in their native land and came to the United States, locating in New York state, and there he died, having been a farmer all his life.

John Petrie was engaged in farming in York state when he responded to his country's call in August, 1862, and enlisted at Rome, N. Y., in Company H, One Hundred and Seventeenth New York Volunteer Infantry for service during the Civil war, and was assigned to the Eastern Army. Mr. Petrie participated in the principal battles of his division, including those of Drury's Bluff, Petersburg Heights, siege of Petersburg, siege of Charleston, Chapin's Farm, Derbytown Road, siege of Richmond, and Fort Fisher, and was slightly wounded by a bayonet in the left leg, and twice with gunshots. He was honorably discharged in June, 1865, and returned to Oneida County, N. Y. For some years following he was quietly engaged there at work at his trade. In 1872 he came to Steward, Lee County, Ill., and in 1895 moved to Rockford, where he found ready employment as a carpenter. After his arrival in this city he built his present handsome frame residence which has all the modern improvements, and in it he is now living retired.

On December 10, 1873, Mr. Petrie married Jane Roberts, born in Canada, September 15, 1849, a daughter of Mahlon and Ellen (Runchie) Roberts, natives of Canada. Mr. and

Mrs. Petrie became the parents of the following children: Jennie, who was born November 14, 1874, and John W., born June 15, 1878. Jennie was married to George F. Cook September 9, 1894 at Steward, Ill., and later moved on a farm near Davis Junction, Ill. They became parents of three children: Alfred, born July 19, 1895, was married to Margaret Rainey of Stillman Valley, on June 12, 1915. Wilbur, born July 17, 1900; Wesley, born May 25, 1902. John W. Petrie was married to Mabel I. Stiefman on Sept. 3, 1903 and has no children. John W. was in the Spanish-American war, in 1898-1899. He is now the manager of the East Side Inn at Rockford, Ill.

Mr. Petrie attends the Methodist church. In politics he is a Republican, but does not care for public honors. Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R. holds his membership and he enjoys meeting his old comrades by whom he is highly esteemed as he is by all who know him.

PHELPS, Charles E., manager of the Fay Lewis Tobacco Company, dealers in cigars and soft drinks at No. 314 W. State street, is one of the most capable business men of the West Side, and an excellent representative of Rockford's best citizens. He was born in Owen Township, this county, where he lived until he attained his majority, at which time he moved to Rockford and was employed in the Rockford Watch factory for eighteen months. For the next three years he was with H. O. Hinkley's greenhouse and leaving there went with F. E. Osmer, in the Mendelssohn building, for eighteen months. Following this for a short period he was with Mr. Moffatt, when he went in the branch store of the Fay Lewis Tobacco Company on S. Main street. After three years of efficient service, he took a trip throughout the West, returning to his old position upon his return to Rockford. His capabilities received proper recognition on January 1, 1909, for he was placed in charge of the company's branch store at No. 314 W. State street, which is one of the finest and most important of its kind in the city.

In September, 1910, Mr. Phelps was married to Miss Bertha Cummings, a daughter of F. B. and Nettie (Benedict) Cummings of Roscoe, Ill. Mr. Cummings is one of Winnebago County's leading stockmen. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps have one child, Charles C. Mr. Phelps is a thirty-second degree Mason, and also belongs to the order of Elks. A man of enterprise, he has forged ahead, and having proven his worth through years of efficient service, stands very high with his company and the public generally.

PHELPS, Egbert, now a retired farmer of Rockford, in his days of agricultural activity became prosperous in Winnebago County, and is still regarded as an authority upon matters relative to the tilling of the soil and the handling and raising of stock. He was born at Rockford, Ill., April 20, 1837, a son of John and Lucretia (Kimbell) Phelps.

John Phelps was born in Vermont in 1810, and

there educated. He learned the carpenter trade and became a prosperous contractor in Vermont, and then decided to try his fortunes in Michigan. After locating in that state he married, and worked at his trade there for a time, and then moved to Rockford, Ill., and entered land from the government in the vicinity of Cherry Valley. To his original 160 acres he added until he owned 200 acres, but this he sold in 1864, and went to Pecatonica, and embarked in a hardware business, which he sold at the end of two years and went to Davistown, Stephenson County, and conducted a lumber business for two years. His next removal was to Durand, Ill., where he died in 1874, aged sixty-four years. His wife survived him many years, dying at Plymouth, Mo., at the home of her son, John A., December 1, 1902, when she was ninety-one years old. She was born July 17, 1811, in Vermont, and went to Michigan to visit a sister and there was married. Her parents both died in Vermont. John Phelps was a Republican in politics and was a member of the Methodist Church.

Egbert Phelps was reared at Rockford and educated in its public schools. In 1863, when he was twenty-six years old, he enlisted in Company K, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, for service during the Civil war. Later, on account of this regiment being filled, he enlisted in the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry and served for two years, being honorably discharged at the close of the conflict as quartermaster of Company K. He was in a number of states and was employed in chasing bushwhackers mostly during his term of service.

On his return to Rockford, Mr. Phelps bought eighty acres of land in Owen Township, to which he continued to add until he had over 240 acres. This he cultivated until his retirement, at the age of sixty-four years, when he moved to Rockford, where he lives in the comfortable residence at No. 1307 School street, which he owns.

On November 29, 1866, Mr. Phelps was married to Mary E. Brown, who was born in Owen Township September 12, 1843, a daughter of Mowry and Lucy M. (Pease) Brown. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps have two children: Charles E., who is a resident of Rockford, married Bertha Cummings, and they have a son, Charles C.; and Zora E., who married R. G. W. Kinder, who resides at Rockford. Mr. Phelps is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and his wife belongs to the Woman's Relief Corps. Fraternally Mr. Phelps is a member of Rockford Lodge No. 31, I. O. O. F., and both he and his wife are members of the Rebekahs. He has the distinction of being the oldest living native son of Rockford, and Winnebago County.

PHELPS, John, page 639.

PHELPS, William Anderson. The late William Anderson Phelps was a very successful agriculturalist and set a standard for excellence in that line. He was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., April 6, 1825, a son of James and Phoebe

(Resigne) Phelps, natives of New York state, who were farming people who lived and died in that locality.

Until 1848, William Anderson Phelps resided with his parents but in that year went to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and spent two years. In the meanwhile, in 1836, Dr. Lippett, who later became the father-in-law of Mr. Phelps, had gone to Winnebago County, Ill., and had bought a tract of land, making the trip on horseback, leading another horse. These he sold to pay for his land, and returned to New York state on foot. At a later date once more he made the same trip, in company with two members of his family, coming with teams and traveling six weeks. He settled in Sherland Township, where both he and wife died. Owing to the settlement of Dr. Lippett in Winnebago county Mr. Phelps came to the same locality, and he and his wife located in Rockton Township, where he bought a large farm, paying \$8 per acre. On this he made all the improvements, and later bought several other tracts in different places, owning at one time several hundreds of acres. His death occurred November 17, 1903. He left his widow the homestead of 300 acres, and an 11-acre timber tract in Sherland Township.

On January 13, 1848, Mr. Phelps was married in Crawford County, Pa., to Mary J. Lippett, born in September, 1826, a daughter of John Wesley and Almira (Joslyn) Lippett, natives of Otsego County, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps became the parents of the following children: Byron W., who was born July 21, 1850, lives at Beloit, Wis.; Mary P., who was born March 13, 1853, is the widow of Frank P. Miller, born at Rockton, Ill., July 19, 1851, a son of Alexander and Mary (Mackey) Miller, natives of Vermont and Scotland, and died February 19, 1898, since when Mrs. Miller has resided with Mrs. Phelps; Ella V., who was born May 11, 1854, died June 16, 1858; William H., who was born July 12, 1858, lives in Roscoe Township; Carey E., who was born December 25, 1860, lives at Rockton; Hattie E., who is Mrs. Allen M. Wilson, of Beloit, Wis.; George H., who was born October 14, 1866, lives at Oakham, Mass.; and Rose L., who was born July 30, 1868, is Mrs. George Peppers of Groton, So. Dak., and has two children, Gail and Ralph. The other grandchildren are: Cora, who is Mrs. George Boswell of Sherland, Ill., and Dr. Frank W. Phelps, of Seattle, Wash., the children of Byron W.; Clarence Miller, who is of Los Angeles, Cal.; Fred Miller, who is of Los Palos, Cal.; Eugene Miller, who is of Fresno, Cal., and Grace, who is Mrs. Ralph E. Buckenridge of Beloit, Wis., all of whom are the children of Mrs. Frank P. Miller; Lloyd Wilson, who is of Harrison Township; Violet, who is Mrs. Marvin Bates, of Harrison Township; and Wilma, who is Mrs. Clarence Wishop, of Harrison Township, who are the children of Mrs. Allen M. Wilson; and Gladys, Pearl and Joyce Phelps, who are the children of George H. Phelps.

Mrs. Phelps did not have many educational advantages in her youth, but she is a very intelligent woman, and an earnest church member, having belonged to the Methodist church of Sherland since she was sixteen years old. During the latter part of his life Mr. Phelps was a superintendent of the Sunday school of this church, and was very sincere in his religious profession. Originally a Republican, he later became a Progressive, and served in all of the township offices. He was one of the best men in every respect that this locality has produced and his influence for good is still prevailing.

PHELPS, William H. The name of Phelps is a well known one in Winnebago County, and has been associated with some of the most progressive farming done in this section. One who bears this name and lives up to its traditions is William H. Phelps, of Rockton Township. He was born in this township July 12, 1858, a son of William A. and Mary Jane (Lippett) Phelps, natives of New York state, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

William H. Phelps attended the schools of his district and those of Beloit, Wis., for two terms, and has added to his store of knowledge by observation. He remained at home until 1888 and then took up his residence on his present farm of 256 acres, a portion of which he inherited from his father. He has always been a general farmer and raises Holstein cattle of registered stock, keeping twenty-eight cows in his herd. He also breeds and raises Norman mares. In addition to building his modern residence, he has made other improvements and increased the value of his property very materially.

On January 26, 1888, when he was twenty-eight years old, Mr. Phelps married Cora D. Crandall, born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., a daughter of Enoch Crandall of the same county. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps have one son, Everett Crandall, who was born August 30, 1899. Mr. Phelps belongs to the Sherland Methodist Church. He is a Republican in politics and holds very decided views in favor of temperance. He has served as a road commissioner and school director, and is a wide awake, capable man with sterling principles. The Modern Woodmen of America lodge at Sherland holds his membership.

PHILLIP, Peter P., owner and manager of the Phillips' Electric Garage at Nos. 418 and 420 Mulberry street, has one of the most perfectly equipped establishments of its kind in this part of the state, and is a recognized leader in his line at Rockford. He was born at Aurora, Ill., January 22, 1887, a son of Michael and Thresa (Arch) Phillip. The parents were born in Austria, and came to the United States early in life. In 1880 they located at Aurora, Ill., where the father was employed in the paper mill at that point until his death in 1910, when he was sixty-one years old. The mother died in

1906, aged forty-five years. The father was a Republican. Both he and the mother were consistent members of the Catholic church.

With the exception of a short time at Vandalia, the boyhood of Peter P. Phillip was spent at Aurora, and here he secured his educational training. His first work was done for the Aurora cotton mills, he receiving fifty cents per day for his services. After a year with this concern he entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad as machinist and steam fitter, and after four years, left to engage with the Electric Storage Battery Company of Chicago, at \$9 per week. Three years of faithful service for this company resulted in his being sent to Rockford, Ill., to work for the Joslyn Motor Company, and here he found an opening, and in eighteen months, or in 1909, he embarked in his present business. The volume of his trade increasing so materially, in 1913 Mr. Phillip erected his present building, designing it especially for garage purposes, and here he is enjoying a prosperous business. He handles the Baker, Rauch and Lang electric cars.

In 1913 Mr. Phillip was married to Miss Margaret O'Malley, a daughter of Austin and Anna Nolan O'Malley, and they have one son, Paul F. Phillip, born August 19, 1914. A man of progressive ideas, Mr. Phillip has never been afraid to go ahead, and his present success may be attributed to his courage in branching out and having confidence in his own business ability.

PIERPONT, Theron Gaylord, a prosperous retired farmer of Rockford, attained considerable prominence as an agriculturalist during the many years he was in active life. He was born in North Haven, Conn., April 21, 1851, a son of Guy and Jerusha (Gaylord) Pierpont, natives of North Haven and Cheshire, Conn. The grandparents were Giles and Sally (Bassett) Pierpont, of Connecticut, and Titus and Hannah (Hitchcock) Gaylord of Cheshire, Conn. Guy Pierpont and his wife came to Rockford, Ill., in 1857, and he rented a farm for five years, then bought it, a tract of 247 acres just one-half mile west of Rockford city limits. This farm was an improved one and he lived on it the remainder of his life, dying January 3, 1870. His wife died November 14, 1894. Their children were as follows: Elenor, who is Mrs. Samuel N. Jones; Theron G.; and Watson T., who lives at Bruce, Wis.

Theron Gaylord Pierpont attended the district schools of Winnebago County and the Lounsburg school. His inclinations led him to adopt farming as his calling, and he continued his endeavors in that line until 1900, when he retired. He belongs to the Second Congregational Church of Rockford. In politics he is a Republican and has been a school director. Mr. Pierpont was a member of the Old Rockford Rifles, a history of which organization will be found in this work. Fraternally he has belonged to the Royal Arcanum for some years.

On October 25, 1878, Mr. Pierpont was married at Rockford, to Helen Mary Blakeman, who was born at Oronoc, Conn., a daughter of Benjamin and Carolue (Fairchild) Blakeman, who came to Rockford in 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Pierpont became the parents of the following children: Birdseye, Elenor, Florence and Blakeman. The two older children are at home. The two younger died in infancy. Mrs. Pierpout died July 24, 1910.

There is a "grandfather's clock" in the Pierpont family that has an interesting history. It was made by Silas Marriman in September, 1764, for Silas Atwater of New Cheshire, Conn. When his estate was settled, in 1784, this clock was appraised at ninety shillings and sent to Nathan Gaylord, a son-in-law. In 1829 the estate of Nathan Gaylord was settled, and this clock, then appraised at \$20, was sold at auction to Titus L. Gaylord for \$23. The old case was in bad condition and Calviu Doolittle made the present one for \$7. When the estate of T. L. Gaylord was settled, in 1850, this old clock was appraised at \$1.50. His son, Henry Gaylord, took the clock at that price, in 1882, and shipped it to the mother of Mr. Pierpont, August, 22, 1882, and it has since been used in the Pierpout family. It is in excellent condition and keeps perfect time.

PLAMBECK, Karl Kristian. The handling of milk to meet an ever increasing demand for clean, pure products from the cow, has been developed by men of enterprise and good judgment into a very profitable business. Some of the most reliable men of Winnebago County are engaged in this line of endeavor, among them being Karl Kristian Plambeck, of No. 1532-1534 Second avenue, Rockford. He was born in Denmark, November 22, 1884, a son of F. W. and Maren (Hansen) Plambeck, who came to the United States in 1905. The father located at Rockford and went to work for the Schumann Piano Company as a cabinetmaker, and is still so engaged.

Karl Kristian Plambeck attended the local schools in his native land and learned the grocery trade, being apprenticed to it at the age of eighteen years. He worked as a salt and dried meat clerk until 1906, when he followed his parents to Rockford, and for the next two years worked for the Rockford Desk Company. He then was in a machine shop for another year, when he engaged with the Union Dairy Company, first as a driver, but later became foreman of the drivers. On October 1, 1910, having learned the business, he started the Standard Dairy, and now handles from 3,500 to 4,000 pounds of milk per day, owning eight wagons, and giving employment to twelve men. His dairy has gained a wide reputation for the quality of its product and the reliability of its service.

In January, 1912, Mr. Plambeck was married to Andrea Sommers, born in Denmark, a daughter of Nels and Anna Sommers, who came to the United States about 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Plam-

beck have one daughter, Marian, who was born in the fall of 1912. Mr. Plambeck is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church. In politics he is a Republican. He belongs to the Danish Brotherhood, and is popular with his associates.

PLUMMER, Perry H., D. D. S. Perhaps never before the present, in the history of the dental profession, has such attention been paid to the care and preservation of teeth, for people generally have been awakened to the vital importance of mouth sanitation. Dr. Perry H. Plummer, whose office is at No. 306 E. State street, and residence at No. 230 London avenue, is a competent dental practitioner of Rockford. He was born at Davenport, Iowa, September 11, 1882, a son of Seth H. and Mary F. (McConnell) Plummer, natives of Maine and Wisconsin, respectively. The father is a farmer.

Perry H. Plummer attended the public schools of Huron, S. Dak., and was graduated from the high school of that place, following which he took a three-year course at Huron College, subsequently entering the Northwestern University Dental School, Chicago, being graduated from the latter institution in 1905. Dr. Plummer then located at Rockford where he has since remained, building up a large and valuable practice.

On September 25, 1907, Dr. Plummer was married at Rockford, Ill., to Catherine Dougherty, born March 23, 1885. Dr. and Mrs. Plummer have one son, Perry H., Jr., who was born August 20, 1910. Mrs. Plummer belongs to St. James Church.

POLLARD, Ethelbort (Bert). When the records of Winnebago County are fully compiled it will be found that a large part of the work of development of this locality has been borne by the agriculturists, and one who is deserving of much more than passing mention in this connection is Ethelbort Pollard, of Owen Township. He was born in England, September 12, 1877, a son of William and Thursa (Lambert) Pollard, who were born in England. In 1881 they came to the United States, locating at Rockford where the father worked by the day for two years. He then rented land in Harlem Township to the extent of 100 acres and operated it for three years, when he moved to Owen Township, and rented 240 acres of land, and remained on the place for three years. He then went to Winnebago Township and rented 160 acres for seven years, when he bought the old Kerns farm of 175 acres and lived on it for eight years. Selling, he moved to Rockford where he bought a handsome residence on Kent and West streets where the family now resides. Both the paternal and maternal grandparents died in England.

Ethelbort Pollard attended the public schools of Winnebago County, and later rented a farm of 120 acres in Winnebago Township. In three years he sold his stock and moved to Rockford, where he managed a milk route through the city, and thus continued for three years, when he sold and went to Edmonds County, S. Dak.,

and bought 160 acres of land, living on it for three years. He then rented the farm for two years, giving his time to buying livestock and cream for the Bowdle Creamery Company. He then sold the farm in Edmonds County and returned to Rockford, where he bought a small farm near the city which he operated, and at the same time managed a farm of 180 acres for the Hoahondle Canning Company for a year. He then bought the 160-acre farm in Owen Township where he now lives, and is a breeder of White-face and Hereford cattle, and Duroc-Jersey hogs. In politics Mr. Pollard is a Republican and now serves as commissioner of highways.

On November 6, 1902, Mr. Pollard was married to Miss Emma Layng, a daughter of George and Jane (Richardson) Layng, and they have two children, namely: Wayne E., born April 9, 1904, and Georgia Jane, born May 7, 1906. Mr. Layng was born at Newark, N. J., and was brought to Belvidere, Ill., by his parents. There he was reared and educated. In 1861 he enlisted for service during the Civil war, in an Illinois infantry regiment, and served three years and eight months, and was honorably discharged. He returned to Belvidere where he married. Mrs. Layng was born in Lewiston, N. Y., and came to Belvidere, Ill., on a visit, where she met and married Mr. Layng. She was a daughter of John and Mary (Newlove) Richardson, Mr. Richardson being a manufacturer of shoes. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Layng located at Rockford, and here he died in 1911, aged sixty-two years. Mrs. Layng survives, and lives at Rockford.

POOL, William C., for a number of years an important factor in the life of Ogle and Winnebago counties, but lately living partially retired at Rockford, is one of the well known men of this part of the state. He was born at Darwin, Clark County, Ill., August 11, 1838, a son of Dr. Simeon and Hannah J. (Hogins) Pool, natives of Windom County, Vt., and Onondaga County, N. Y. They were married in the latter state in 1836, and started by way of the Erie Canal to Clark County, Ill. Dr. Pool was one of the very first physicians of that locality, and died at Marshall, Ill., in 1861. On April 6, 1840, he was appointed colonel of the Fifty-sixth Regiment Illinois Militia.

William C. Pool attended the common schools of Clark County, Ill., and remained with his parents until his enlistment in June, 1861, for service during the Civil war, when he enrolled as a member of the regimental band of the Fourteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. In 1862 the bands were disbanded, and he returned home and assisted in the organization of Company K, One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, of which he was elected first lieutenant, and was assigned to the army under command of General Grant. He was detached to act as guard for his general during the entire siege of Vicksburg, after

which he was assigned to the Department of the Gulf, under General Banks, and during the Red River campaign, while at Mansfield, La., the entire brigade was taken by the enemy, and imprisoned at Camp Ford, Tyler, Texas. They were held prisoners for fourteen months, until May, 1865, which was some time after Lee surrendered and the war was over, they being the last prisoners held by the enemy, after which they all went to Shreveport, La., secured transportation to New Orleans, from whence they were sent to St. Louis, and on from there to Springfield, Ill., where they were discharged in August, 1865.

After this trying experience, Mr. Pool went to Marshall, Ill., where he entered the drug business and conducted it for three years. He then went to Evansville, Indiana, and became a traveling salesman for a crockery house, his territory extending over Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee. In 1873 he moved to Forreston, Ill., to enter the grain business and spent the following twenty-three years at that point. In 1895 he sold his business and took his family for a year's trip through Europe. In 1896 he located at Rockford, buying a fine property on North Court street, which he remodeled, and in it he has since lived somewhat retired, although he carries on a private real-estate business.

On May 12, 1875, Mr. Pool was married at Forreston, Ill., to Anifa A. Salter, born at Mt. Morris, a daughter of Jacob and Sophia Salter, natives of England. Mr. and Mrs. Pool became the parents of the following children: Robert S., who died at the age of seven years; Kate, who died in infancy; Adah S., who is Mrs. Ray E. Neidig, of Iowa City, Iowa; and Annie J., who is Mrs. Elmer H. Kuhlmeier, residing in Rockford, Ill. Mr. Pool belongs to the Methodist church. In politics he is a Democrat, and fraternally he is a Mason. A man of broad ideas, he takes a warm interest in civic matters, and is a potent factor in handling local affairs.

POOLE, Hilary T., foreman of the machine department of the Illinois School Furniture Company, with residence at No. 228 S. Court street, is a man who during his entire career has shown the value of earnest endeavor and steadfast purpose. Mr. Poole was born in Davis County, Ky., November 7, 1876. Growing up in his native place, he attended the local schools, and learned the wood-working trade. His initial work was as a cash boy, and he proved himself so capable that he was later made a clerk, and then he entered a piano factory. Subsequently he was employed in a planing mill for two years, and in 1913 came to Rockford to enter the employ of the Illinois School Furniture Company as foreman of his present department where his skill and experience are brought into play.

On April 11, 1899, Mr. Poole was united in marriage with Lena Dittman of Owensboro. They have had children as follows: Katherine, Martine, Hilary T., who died December 31, 1915,

age fourteen months, and three others who died in infancy. Mr. Poole belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. St. Mary's Catholic Church holds his membership. In politics he is independent. A live, energetic, faithful man and excellent citizen, Mr. Poole stands well with all who know him.

PORTER, Roland Goodwin, engineer for the Rockford Gas Light & Coke Company, has recently settled there. He was born at Reading, Mass., May 14, 1879, son of Moses and Julia Hinckley Goodwin. His father was born at North Berwick, Me., and his mother at Lowell, Mass., and they were married in Philadelphia at the home of Isaac Hinckley, Mrs. Goodwin's father. During his later years Mr. Goodwin was one of the leading wholesale rug and drapery merchants of Boston, but died at Reading, Mass., in 1883.

Roland G. Porter lived after his father's death in Philadelphia at his grandfather's home, attending a private school there. In 1889 his mother married Hobert C. Porter of Philadelphia and at ten years of age upon their going to Germany, he attended the gymnasium at Rostock, Mecklenburg, for one year and the Real Schule of Dresden, Saxony, the following year. Returning to the United States he was a pupil at the Model School in Trenton, N. J., for two years and then entered the St. John's Military School at Manlius, N. Y., from which he was graduated. He then matriculated in the Green Scientific School, Princeton University from which he was graduated in 1901 with the degree of B. S. Specializing along gas engineering lines, he went to Munich, Germany, for two years, studying at the Polytechnical School of that city, after which in 1903, he once more returned to America, and engaged with Riter-Conley Manufacturing Company of Pittsburgh, Pa., as chemist-engineer. In this capacity he worked for them at Lowell, Mass., and at Astoria, L. I., also at New Haven, Conn. In 1908 he was promoted to resident engineer for the company at Worcester, Mass., erecting a coal gas plant there and at Lowell, Mass., and also having under his charge work at Sault Ste. Marie, Canada. For a time after these were completed, he was located at the home office of his company in Pittsburgh on design work, then again in 1910 to Worcester, Mass., in charge of construction for a year and a half and approximately another eighteen months on work in Lowell, Mass. For the two years preceding his move to Rockford he was located at the home office again, first as assistant gas engineer, then as assistant manager of erection. On March 1, 1915, he entered the employ of the Rockford Gas Light & Coke Company, which connection he still maintains.

In 1906 Mr. Porter married Miss Frances C. Porter, a daughter of Henry C. and Clara Holcombe Porter of Towanda, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Porter have one child, Frances.

POSSON, Henry Augustus. The pioneers of Winnebago County are gradually passing away, only a few remaining of the original brave, hardy settlers who came here in the early days and began developing that which was to prove one of the most fertile regions of the state. One of the families that is closely associated with events in the thirties and early forties, as well as afterwards, is that bearing the name of Posson, and one of its representatives that became typical of the best class of men in Winnebago County, was the late Henry Augustus Posson. He was born at Media, N. Y., July 8, 1836, a son of Jacob and Mary (Sherwood) Posson, natives of New York state. They came to Winnebago County in 1836, and settled in Guilford Township on land they entered from the government. At that time the only dwellings were log huts, and they lived in one of them for some years. Finally they bought land at Rockford, on which they built, and in their new house Henry A. Posson grew to manhood.

In young manhood, Henry Augustus Posson returned to New York state and there learned the painting trade, but after two years, came back to Rockford, and worked at this trade until he enlisted in September, 1861, for service during the Civil war, in Company G, Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry known as the Lead Mine Regiment, and was wounded at the battle of Shiloh in his right arm, on April 6, 1862, and was honorably discharged in September, 1862, on account of disability. Once more he came back to Rockford and resumed work at his trade, continuing in this line of business until a few years of his death, which occurred November 2, 1912. In addition he was identified with the postal service for a number of years, dating from 1890.

On September 19, 1867, Mr. Posson was married to Hannah McClafferty, at Rockford, she having been born in Nova Scotia, March 2, 1837, a daughter of Roger and Mary (Deeper) McClafferty, of Scotch and Irish descent, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Posson became the parents of the following children: George A., who died at the age of thirty-nine years; and Mary A., who is Mrs. Addison Burr of Rockford. Mr. Posson was a Republican, and he belonged to Nevius Post No. 1. G. A. R. Mrs. Posson is still living at the old homestead.

POSSON, Jacob, page 646.

POST, John Rosell. One of the old and honored residents of Winnebago County, who during the seventy-four years of his life has been an eyewitness to the development which has transformed this part of Illinois from a wilderness into a fertile garden, John Rosell Post has himself played no inactive part in this progress and development. His entire life has been passed upon the farm which he now owns in Guilford Township, where he was born in a log house, June 1, 1842, a son of Nathaniel and Eliza (Rich) Post.

The Post family in America was founded by two brothers, who came from County Essex, England, about the year 1636, Stephen and Grant Post, the former of whom became a man of considerable distinction. In the year 1794, two of his descendants, Dan and Nathaniel Post, located in New York and purchased land in the wilderness of Herkimer County, the former of these two being the paternal grandfather of John R. Post. The grandfather continued agricultural pursuits in New York throughout his life, and there died. Nathaniel Post, the father of John R. Post, was the next to the youngest of nine children and was born May 21, 1810. He was married at Newport, Herkimer County, N. Y., to Eliza Rich, who was also born there, a daughter of Levi and Marcey (Brewster) Rich, this marriage being contracted October 12, 1837. Almost immediately thereafter they went to Painesville, Ohio, where they remained until 1839, and in that year, with Mr. Post's brother and the latter's wife, came to Illinois, arriving after fifteen days on the road, where they were greeted by old friends whom they knew at Newburg, Boone County, Ill. After a short stay they came to the farm in Guilford Township. Nathaniel Post secured 213 acres of land where his son, John R., has passed his life, and here his entire career was spent in the development and cultivation of a valuable property. He improved his farm in numerous ways, planted shade and ornamental trees, and passed away amid their comfortable and honestly-won environments, November 11, 1888, Mrs. Post surviving until February 2, 1890. They were members of that sturdy class to which Illinois owes so much for its development, honest, industrious and God-fearing people, whose lives are eminently worthy of emulation. Three sons were born to them: John R.; Irvin, who died in infancy; and Erwin, who died in 1901, leaving two children.

John R. Post attended the district schools of Guilford Township until 1859, when he entered the Rockford High School. Brought up to agricultural work, in 1864 he took charge of the home farm, eighty acres of which he purchased. Later he secured many more acres from his father, and his property now comprises 223 acres, 130 of which were formerly in the original homestead. He has always been a general farmer and feeder of cattle, and has been successful in his operations because of the constant exercise of industry and good management. While he still supervises the operation of his land, since 1892 it has been under the management of his son, Frank M. A Republican in his political views, Mr. Post has been active in his party, and since the spring of 1901 has served continuously in the capacity of supervisor of Guilford Township. Fraternally, he is connected with Cherry Valley Lodge No. 173, A. F. & A. M.

On May 31, 1866, Mr. Post was married at Muskegon, Mich., to Miss Ella Georgianna Fish, who was born in northeastern Pennsylvania, February 19, 1848, a daughter of Andrew and Marinda (Sherwood) Fish, the parents natives

of Greenwich, N. Y. To Mr. and Mrs. Post there have been born the following children: Minnie E., born August 2, 1867, a resident of Austin, Ill.; Frank M., born December 3, 1869, married June 1, 1892, Frances Maud Albright, born at Belvidere, Boone County, Ill., and has two daughters, Dorothea Louise, born June 18, 1896, and Irene Elizabeth, born May 20, 1898; Spencer N., born February 28, 1872, died August 25, 1872; and Fannie S., born April 2, 1876, died September 19, 1876.

POTTER, Herman B., page 645.

POTTER, Joel B., page 658.

PRATT, William C. The most representative men of any community are not those who attain to greatness in public office but those who pursue the ordinary vocations of life, dealing honestly and fairly with everyone, and building up business houses which stand to their credit after they are gone. Such a man was the late William C. Pratt of Rockford. He was born at Manchester, Vt., in February, 1838, a son of Chester and Almira (Collins) Pratt, natives of Connecticut and Cambridge, N. Y., respectively. The father died when fifty-six years old, and the mother married twice afterwards.

William C. Pratt was the eldest of four children born to his parents, and spent his boyhood days with them. In young manhood he came to Rockford, and for a time was engaged in teaming, and then sold goods for a Mr. Leonard. Later with a Mr. Burroughs he engaged in business, but within two years bought out his associates. Subsequently he established the fruit and confectionery store he conducted to his death, which occurred March 9, 1893. Following his demise his widow and son carried on this business as a wholesale and retail concern, selling it after some years. They became noted for the quality of their goods, particularly for their ice cream.

On November 14, 1860, Mr. Pratt married Julia F. Spink, born on the line between New York and Vermont, a daughter of Robert and Julia Ann (Warner) Spink, natives of Rhode Island and Connecticut. They came to Rockford in 1852, where Mr. Spink worked as a carpenter before he bought land in New Milford Township and farmed for ten years. Returning to Rockford, he lived in that city for a time and then bought another farm in Seward Township and conducted it for five years, when once more he sold and came back to Rockford, bought a residence and lived in it until his death in 1895. Mrs. Spink died in 1892, she then being eighty-three years old, while he was eighty-five years old at the time of his demise. He was always a man of action and not happy unless at work. Mr. and Mrs. Spink had the following children: Andrew C., who is deceased; Mrs. Pratt, and Angeline, who is deceased. Mrs. Pratt was educated in the common schools of Rockford, and the Rockford High school, and when only seventeen years old

began teaching in the country schools and so continued for two years, being a very popular educator. Mr. and Mrs. Pratt had the following children: Andrew, who resides at Rockford; Edwin, who died in infancy; Robert, who resides at Rockford; George, who died in infancy, and Fannie, who lives with her mother. Andrew married Edith Tanner, of Chicago, and they had two children: Marguerite and Joseph. Robert married Myrtle Lewis and they have two children: Harry Lewis, who married Agnes Nichol; and William. Mrs. Pratt owns a lot on W. State street on which she has built a fine modern frame residence and here she and her daughter live. Mr. Pratt belonged to the Masonic order and his widow is a member of the Eastern Star and White Shrine. In politics Mr. Pratt was a Republican and religiously he was a Methodist. He was a man of high principles and sought to do his full duty according to his ideas, and was a desirable citizen and upright Christian man.

PRENTICE, Jonas W. Faithfulness to duties either great or small, makes for good citizenship and this fact is never more forcibly brought home to the thoughtful person than after a man has been taken away from the scene of his activities, and a review is made of his life. Such was the case with the late James W. Prentice of Rochelle, whose widow is one of the honored residents of Winnebago County. He lived his life according to what he believed was right, and left behind him a name for honest dealing and honorable purpose. Mr. Prentice was born at Binghamton, N. Y., May 2, 1852. In 1871 he came as far west as Rochelle, Ill., and was in a butter and egg business, but later went to Plymouth, Iowa, and spent seven years. He was also at Jackson, Tenn., for fifteen months, and then returned to Rochelle, Ill., where he died October 1, 1887.

In 1872 Mr. Prentice was married to Mary E. Slaughter, and they had two children: Maynard W. and Lloyd I., both of whom live at Readgier, Canada. After the death of Mr. Prentice, Mrs. Prentice returned to Tennessee where she spent several years. She then went back to her old home in Ogle County, but in 1903 bought fourteen acres of land just south of Rockford where she is now residing.

PRESCOTT, William, one of the oldest native born citizens of Winnebago County, is now living retired at the village of Winnebago. His father, William Prescott, a native of England, emigrated to Canada in early manhood, and was married at Quebec, Canada, to Margaret Hickey. In 1836 they came to Illinois and purchased a tract of land in Lysander Township, Winnebago County, where they lived until the early forties, at which time they moved to Winnebago Township, this county. Here the father purchased a half section of land, improved a portion of it and erected some buildings, but sold in 1852, and started for Iowa, but was never heard

of afterwards. It is not even known where he remained the first night. As he had considerable money with him, it has always been supposed that he met with foul play. The mother died in 1890 in her seventy-fifth year. They had a family of nine children, all of whom grew to maturity, as follows: Robert, who is deceased; Mary, who married C. M. Fountain, is deceased, her husband having been one of the manufacturers of the Fountain reapers; James, who was killed by lightning in 1891, served for three years during the Civil war as a member of Company E, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry; William; Edward, who is deceased, served for three years during the Civil war, in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was shot through the body at the battle of Missionary Ridge; Sarah, who is the widow of W. B. Anderson, a soldier of the Civil war who died some years ago; Charles, who served as a soldier during the Civil war as a member of the Eighth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry; John, who served in the regular army for eighteen months following the close of the Civil war; and Ellen M., who married Henry Beecher, is deceased, as is her husband.

William Prescott was born in Lysander Township, October 4, 1841, but was early taken to Winnebago Township by his parents, and there grew to manhood, with the exception of a year spent in Iowa. He was a soldier in the Civil war, enlisting as a private July 19, 1861, in Company A, Second Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, and later was appointed a non-commissioned officer. He took an active part in the battles of Forts Henry and Donelson, Shiloh, the siege of Corinth, and the taking of Vicksburg, a number of skirmishes and the battle of Fort Blakley near Mobile, the last engagement of the war. After a service of four years, five months and eleven days, Mr. Prescott was discharged and mustered out at San Antonio, Tex., receiving his final discharge at Springfield, Ill., January 6, 1866. He had the good fortune not to have been either wounded or taken prisoner. On his return home he engaged in farming and buying stock, which he followed off and on until his retirement from active business in 1911.

On February 22, 1879, Mr. Prescott was married to Ada, a daughter of Alfred and Emma (Faulkner) Runyard, pioneers of Winnebago County. Mr. and Mrs. Prescott became the parents of three children as follows: Harvey Lee, Oral G., and Ila B., the last-named being deceased. Mr. Prescott has held various local offices, including those of road commissioner and tax collector, and in politics is a staunch Republican.

PRICE, Henry W., page 934.

QUICK, Albert F., D. D. S., one of the skilled and successful dental surgeons of Rockford, with offices conveniently located at 603 Trust Building, and residence at No. 310 North Church street, was born at Hillsdale, Ill., November 19, 1879, a son of Garrett S. and Ketu-

rah (Smith) Quick, farming people. Dr. Quick attended the country schools of his native county, and Cordova High School, following this course with one at a normal school during 1899-1902. For the succeeding three years he was an instructor in a high school. In 1904 he began attending the Chicago Dental College, from which he was graduated in 1907, and immediately thereafter he located at Rockford, where he has since been engaged in an active practice. that shows a normal and healthy increase with each year. Dr. Quick is a member in good standing of the Winnebago Dental Society, and with the Masonic order. Of late years Dr. Quick has been one of the representatives of his profession to minister to the public school children, he being appointed each year by the school board.

On March 4, 1904, Dr. Quick was married to Mary E. Patterson of Genoa, Ill., the ceremony being performed at Moline, Ill. Dr. Quick keeps abreast of the times, and is a recognized leader in his profession in this part of the state. He has done much to awaken the public to the necessity of caring for the teeth of the young, and his work among the school children is very effective and important, and the services he is rendering in this direction entitle him to a high position in public regard.

RALSTON, Matthew L. The agricultural interests of Winnebago County are many and varied, and a number of the sound and reliable men of this section are engaged in tilling the soil and raising stock. One of these who stands high in public esteem is Matthew L. Ralston of Guilford Township. He was born in Harlem Township, this county, April 10, 1873, a son of Mathew and Janette (Lightbody) Ralston, natives of Campbelltown, Scotland, who came to Winnebago County in 1868. For some years they rented land and then bought a farm in Belvidere Township, Boone County, Ill., where they now reside. They had the following children: John W., who resides on N. Court street, Rockford; Ellen, who is deceased; Mathew L.; Catherine, James and Thomas, who live with their parents; and Margaret, who died at the age of eleven years.

Matthew L. Ralston attended the schools of his native township, and resided with his parents until he reached his majority, learning from them habits of industry and thrift which he still follows. At that time he and his brother, J. W. Ralston, rented a farm in Harlem Township and operated it for four years. They then bought 170 acres in Caledonia Township, Boone County, and worked it together for two years, when Matthew L. Ralston sold his interest to his brother and bought the Daniel David farm of 100 acres in Guilford Township. Three years later he bought eighty acres in the same township from his father-in-law, which was a portion of the latter's homestead, and has resided upon it ever since. He raises Shorthorn cattle and Pollé-Angus cattle, Po-

land-China hogs, and Norman horses, being very successful in his ventures.

In March, 1902, Mr. Ralston was married to Mary Jane Brown, who was born in Guilford Township, a daughter of Hugh and Jane (Picken) Brown, born in Caledonia Township, Boone County, Ill., whose settlement in Guilford Township dates back to its early days. Mr. and Mrs. Ralston became the parents of one son, Floyd H., who was born December 29, 1906. Mr. Ralston is a Presbyterian in religious faith, attending the church of that denomination at Argyle, Ill. The Republican party has his support, but he has not entered public life, preferring to exert his influence as a private citizen.

RALSTON, William B., for many years one of the retired business men of Rockford, at one time was prominent in the city's vital interests, and is remembered for his excellent characteristics. He was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, July 20, 1842, a son of William and Helen (Greenley) Ralston, natives of Scotland who located at Cincinnati at an early day. When their son, William B. Ralston, was a child, they moved to Roscoe, Ill., locating on a farm in that vicinity, but later went on a farm near the Argyle settlement in Harlem Township, Winnebago County.

William B. Ralston attended the country schools of Winnebago County. When he attained his majority he bought a farm in Guilford Township, and his sisters Mary and Helen kept house for him until Helen married, Mary continuing to live with him for many years. Later he sold the property and moved to Rockford where he bought the Ryburn House on S. First street. He also invested in a livery stable and additionally was associated with a Mr. Trigg in a marble and granite business for many years. After retirement he lived on Charles street in a residence he bought from L. B. Gregory. Mr. Ralston built four apartment flat buildings of brick construction and was a man of considerable means. After an illness extending over several years he died April 27, 1909.

On June 12, 1895, Mr. Ralston was married to Katherine McEachran, born in Argyle, Harlem Township, a daughter of Hugh and Katherine (Turner) McEachran, both born near Campbelltown, Argyleshire, Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. Ralston became the parents of three children: William A., Katherine M., and Andrew Neal. Since the death of Mr. Ralston, his widow and children have continued to reside on Charles street. Mrs. Ralston is a graduate of the Rockford High School. Mr. Ralston was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Rockford, and prominent in its affairs. In politics he was a Republican. Sound in his opinions, he was not afraid to voice them, and as he was a man of strong character, he exerted considerable influence among his associates by whom he was held in the highest esteem.

REDMOND, James G., a general contractor and manufacturer of all kinds of mill work, is one of the native sons of Rockford, having been born in this city, February 3, 1878, a son of Henry and Julia (Murphy) Redmond, natives of Ireland and Rockford, respectively. The paternal grandparents, Garrett and July Redmond, came to Rockford in 1853, the grandfather being a teamster. The maternal grandparents, Daniel and Ellen Murphy, were natives of Ireland, who became early settlers of Rockford, Daniel Murphy being employed on the construction work of the first railroad to enter Rockford. Henry and Julia Redmond were married at Rockford, where they lived until the fall of 1913, at which time they went to Los Angeles, Cal., and there he became a merchant. Their children have been as follows: James G.; Julia, who is Mrs. James Mullen of Los Angeles, Cal.; Eleanor, who is Mrs. John McMahon of Rockford; Daniel, who is deceased; Mary, who is Mrs. Edward Titcombe of Colton, Cal.; Catherine, who is Mrs. Levi Landers of Los Angeles, Cal.; Henry, who resides at Los Angeles, Cal.; John, who resides at Rockford; Anna, who resides at Rockford; Agnes, who is Mrs. William Butler of Mt. Morris, Ill.; Gerald, who resides at Los Angeles, Cal.; Joseph, who also resides at Los Angeles; and Peter, who resides at Chicago. There is also an adopted son in the family.

James G. Redmond attended the public schools in his district, the parochial schools and Brown's Business College. When he was fifteen years old he became a railroad grader, and three years later became a grading contractor for the railroad. In 1899 he began doing carpenter work at Rockford and so continued until 1906 when he became a general contractor, and does all kinds of mill work. His mill and office were originally located between State and Mulberry streets and Main and Church streets, but in the spring of 1914 he moved his plant to No. 1122 Greenmount street, where he has since continued.

On October 9, 1901, Mr. Redmond was married to Catherine Fitzgerald, born at Rockford, a daughter of John and Anna (Carney) Fitzgerald of Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald became the parents of the following children: Agnes, who is Mrs. Martin Dewane of Belvidere, Ill.; Edward, who resides in Rockford Township; Mary, who is Mrs. John Shields of Rockford; James, who lives in Guilford Township; Anna, who is Mrs. William Drohm of Rockford Township; John, who is deceased; Mrs. Redmond; Margaret, who resides with her parents; William, who lives at Rockford; and Clara, who is Mrs. Edward Kennedy of Rockford Township. Mr. and Mrs. Redmond have two children, namely: Francis, who was born January 25, 1908; and Margaret, who was born December 5, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Redmond belong to St. James Catholic Church. In politics he is a Republican.

REGAN, Marshall H., page 662.

REID, Fred J. The activity in building at Rockford and the territory contiguous to this

city has brought into being a number of interests connected with this line of endeavor, and one of them is the supplying of the demand for building stone. One of the men who has found it profitable to devote his skill and time to preparing stone for the various building purposes is Fred J. Reid of this city. He was born at Chicago, September 20, 1873, a son of James F. and Mary E. (Faulkner) Reid, natives of Glasgow, Scotland, and New York. The father, who had come to the United States prior to the Civil war, enlisted in the United States navy for service during that struggle, and was coxswain of the S. S. Baltimore. After the close of hostilities, he went to Chicago, where he was married. By trade he was a millwright. His death occurred in Colorado during 1899. The mother survives and lives at Chicago.

Fred J. Reid attended the Chicago public schools until fourteen years old when he began working at the butchering trade, but after five years, began writing policies for an insurance company, in which he continued for two years. He then learned the trade of stone cutting, and continued working at it in Chicago until 1902, when he came to Rockford and was employed at his trade until 1906, when he established himself in business for himself. Mr. Reid buys Indiana limestone from Bedford, Ind., and cuts and dresses stone for all building purposes, supplying local dealers in addition to shipping a considerable amount to other places, having a large and constantly increasing trade.

In 1896 Mr. Reid was married at Chicago, to Jennie Allison, born at Edinburg, Scotland, a daughter of David and Mary (Easton) Allison. Mr. and Mrs. Reid have one daughter, Irene M. Mr. Reid attends the Westminster Presbyterian Church. In politics he is a Republican. A Mason in high standing, Mr. Reid has attained the thirty-second degree, and is also a member of the Shrine. He belongs to the Odd Fellows, the Columbian Knights, the Scotch Clan, and the Burns Club, and is past president of the latter. A man of marked skill in his line, he has earned a reputation for the quality of his work that is unquestioned and valuable.

REIMER, F. I., one of the prosperous farmers of Roscoe Township, well known over Winnebago County, was born in Germany, February 25, 1851, a son of Fred and Mary (Sweidth) Reimer, natives of Germany. After they had been married for some years, or in 1861, they came to the United States, settling on a farm near Beloit, Wis. Eleven years later they went to Manchester, Boone County, Ill., and bought ninety-six acres of land where they lived until they died, the father passing away in 1898, aged fifty-nine years, and the mother in 1896, aged fifty-seven years. They belonged to the German Lutheran Church. The father was a Democrat in politics.

The boyhood of F. I. Reimer was spent at

Beloit, but in 1877 he went to Yankton, S. Dak., and followed farming for a year. Upon his return to Illinois, he joined his parents at Manchester, and buying fifty-three acres of land, operated it for twenty-seven years, when he left that farm and bought 160 acres in Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, where he has since resided.

Mr. Reimer was first married in 1873, to Miss Minnie Paun, and they had one son, William H., who resides with his father. In 1880, he was married (second) to Emily Butler, a daughter of David and Catherine (Mason) Butler, the ceremony taking place at Beloit, Wis. Mr. Butler was born at Chambersburg, Pa., in 1825, and the mother of Mrs. Reimer in Hungary in 1821. Her parents died in Hungary and she came to the United States with a sister, and they settled in Pennsylvania, where she met Mr. Butler. After the death of Mr. Butler's parents, he moved to Rockton, Ill., and there he died in 1895. Mrs. Butler survives and lives at Rockford with a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Reimer have the following children: Elizabeth M., who married Victor Archer, has two children, Velma V. and George W.; Jacob O. and Barton E., who are at home; Nettie B., who married Leonard Parker, has three children, Lila B., Vernon L., and Doris E.; and Pearl F., who resides with her parents. In politics Mr. Reimer is a Republican. His only fraternal affiliation is with the Modern Woodmen of America. Not only is he a consistent member of the German Lutheran Church, as are also all the family, but he gives it a generous support, and stands well in it as he does in all his relations with his neighbors.

REITSCH, Henry. Although he is now living retired from business cares, for many years Henry Reitsch was counted among the leading contracting carpenters of Winnebago County, and quite a number of the buildings now standing in Rockford, and throughout the county, bear witness to his skill. He was born in Zittau, Saxony, Germany, May 3, 1833, a son of Carl D. and Elenore (Lebig) Reitsch, both of whom died in Germany.

In 1854 Henry Reitsch came to the United States and for a year worked as a carpenter in Schenectady, N. Y. He then came to Rockford, Ill., where for two years he worked at his trade, and then began a business of his own as a contracting carpenter, building up a wide connection, and continuing in this line for a number of years, when he retired. He owns a valuable residence on Horsman street, Rockford. During the early days of his business career he did much of the building in Rockford, and took pride in the quality of his work. Like so many of his nationality, he learned his trade in his own land, and knew it thoroughly. He is also well educated in the German language, as he attended the public schools of Saxony. The Methodist church on Court street is his religious home, and he is its oldest member, and has served it as steward and is still a trustee

of it, having held the latter office for many years. In politics he is a Republican.

In 1856 Henry Reitsch was married to Dorathea Ludeman, born in Germany, November 26, 1830, the ceremony taking place at Whitewater, Wis. Mrs. Reitsch died November 11, 1896. Three sons were born of this marriage, namely: Ernest R., who was born November 2, 1860, and married May 19, 1886, to Mary E. Whittall, of Rockford. They have two children, Dorathea H. and Earnest E., the former married Harold L. Armstrong, now living in Oklahoma. Augustine W., the second son, is deceased. Charles, the third son, was born May 3, 1868, married Mamie Oviatt, and they have two sons, Henry O. and Robert. These sons all learned the carpenter trade with their father and worked for him. Both surviving sons are associated with the Reitsch Bros. Lumber Company.

RENAUD, Lee A., vice president of the Warner Electrical Engineering Company, at No. 225 N. Main street, Rockford, is one of the able young business men of this city. He was born at West Superior, Wis., May 27, 1888, a son of Adolph and Minnie (Wolff) Renaud. The father was born at Beaucourt, near Paris, France, and came to America when fourteen years old, locating first in Canada, where he worked as a watchmaker. Later he came to the United States and worked in different watch factories, among them that at Elgin, Ill., where he was employed for a number of years. Still later he went to Missouri, and finally to Rockford, where he bought a home at No. 527 N. Madison street. In politics he is a Republican. The mother also survives, and both are held in high esteem by their acquaintances.

Lee A. Renaud was reared and educated at Rockford, and began his business career in the Rockford Bolt works, where he spent eighteen months. He then went to South Bend, Ind., and for seven months was with the Economy Electric Company at that point, but returned to Rockford to go with the Warner Electric Company. Still later he was with the Barber-Coleman Company for four years, and then was in the Machine Electrical works for a time. Mr. Renaud was then with the Warner Electrical Company, and in 1913 became a stockholder and is now secretary and vice president of this same company.

In 1913 Mr. Renaud married Miss Elsie Griep, of Sheboygan, Wis. Mr. Renaud belongs to the Masons and the Mystic Workers and is popular in both orders. In politics he is a Republican. The Christian Union Church holds his membership. Alert, progressive both as an individual and an official, Mr. Renaud is quick to see opportunities and has the wisdom and courage to properly take advantage of them.

RETZLAFF, C. William, a prosperous farmer of section 9, Guilford Township is, perhaps, one of the best examples of the prosperous agriculturalists of Illinois that Winnebago County affords. He was born in Guilford Township,

January 26, 1866, a son of Charles and Hannah (Ollman) Retzlaff, natives of Germany.

Charles Retzlaff came to the United States about 1855, locating in Wisconsin, and for a year worked as a farm hand for \$4 per month. He then came to Winnebago County, and locating at Rockford continued working as a farm hand, and after a few years rented land in Guilford Township. About 1872 he bought eighty acres of land on section 9, this same township, and made it his home until his death at which time he owned 200 acres. In politics he was a Republican. The Lutheran church held his membership. In 1865 he married Hannah Ollman, born in Germany, March 9, 1832, a daughter of Johan and Fredricka Ollman. These parents came to America with their six children, of whom Mrs. Retzlaff was the eldest, and located at Rockford. Mr. Ollman worked for farmers until in company with his son-in-law he rented land. Later he bought 120 acres of land on section 4, Guilford Township, where he and his wife settled. About the time that their youngest daughter married, they sold the farm to her husband for \$25 per acre, on condition they were to retain the house as their home during their lifetime. They were also to have feed for a horse, cow and two hogs, and sufficient wheat to make flour for their personal needs. Mr. Ollman helped with the farm work without any other pay until the grandchildren were old enough to help with the farm work. Then they left the place and found a welcome and generous welcome with the Retzlaff family. Mr. Retzlaff building a cottage on his farm for his wife's parents, which he gave to them rent free from 1885 until they died, both living to be ninety-six years old, Mr. Ollman passing away in 1903, and Mrs. Ollman in 1901.

Mr. and Mrs. Retzlaff became the parents of two children, namely: C. William and Mary, who married H. H. Miller of Guilford Township. Charles Retzlaff died October 10, 1905, aged seventy-one. Mrs. Hannah (Ollman) Retzlaff survives and makes her home with her son and celebrated her eighty-fourth birthday anniversary March 9, 1916. Her children, eleven grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and many friends were present to help her celebrate her anniversary. She is still in the very best of health.

C. William Retzlaff was educated in the schools in his district, but was compelled to leave at an early age as his help was needed on the farm. He has always made his home on section 9, this township, and here he proposes to round out his life. Some time previous to his father's death he bought forty acres on section 8, Guilford Township, and soon after the father passed away, he bought the homestead of 200 acres. For some years he has been carrying on general farming and dairying and milks from ten to twenty cows, and also feeds from 100 to 200 head of hogs each year.

On June 7, 1896, Mr. Retzlaff was married to Martha Strassman, born at Greifenberg, Ger-

many, November 11, 1876, a daughter of Carl and Augusta (Merritt) Strassman. They came to the United States in 1887, and located at Milwaukee, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Retzlaff have the following children: Allen C., Elizabeth H., William F., Carl H., Charlotte M., Arthur E. and Clara M. Mr. Retzlaff is a Republican. The Lutheran church holds his membership. A man actuated by a steady purpose, he has always been willing to work hard for what he wanted, and his present prosperity has been fairly earned.

REVELL, Edwin Morton. Some men are content to confine their religious life to their attendance upon church services, but others take their Christianity into their every day life and so live as to bring home to their associates the beauty and happiness of their belief, thereby exerting a powerful influence for good. Such a man was the late Edwin Morton Revell whose upright life and honorable principles live after him. He was born in Stillman Valley, Ill., August 13, 1854, a son of William and Mary A. (Morton) Revell, natives of England and Canada, respectively. They were married in Canada, but came to Illinois about 1850, and engaged in farming, although the father was a tailor by trade.

Edwin Morton Revell attended the schools in his district until 1876, when he came to Rockford for better educational advantages, attending the East Side High school. After this he became a salesman in a dry goods store and so continued for five years, when he became interested in real estate, associating himself with J. G. Penfield for two years. His next partner was R. F. Crawford, and they remained together for four years, when Mr. Crawford sold and Mr. Revell became sole proprietor of the business, and remained in it until his death, July 16, 1891. He was president of the Real Estate Exchange, being the only man to hold that office from its inception until his death.

On May 13, 1880, Mr. Revell was married to Helen Marie Penfield, born at Rockford, February 17, 1859, a daughter of John G. and Mary Elizabeth (Crosby) Penfield. Mr. and Mrs. Revell became the parents of the following children: Constance E., who was born November 15, 1882, died March 26, 1909; Mildred Penfield, who was born March 5, 1885, married Clarence H. Hitchcock of Rockford, and their children are Helen Lucile and Bernard Henry; and Edwin Morton, who was born December 1, 1891.

After the death of Mr. Revell, Mrs. Revell continued to live in her beautiful home until 1910, when she assumed charge of her father's household.

Mrs. Revell was educated in the grade and high schools of Rockford, and studied music and drawing at Rockford College, where she also attended lectures on different subjects. As was her husband, she is a faithful member of the Baptist Church. The Mendelssohn Club, the Y. W. C. A. and the W. C. T. U. all hold her

membership and enjoy her active participation in the forward movements inaugurated by them.

Mr. Revell was a member of the State Street Baptist Church, and was its treasurer for many years, and also assistant superintendent, taking a very active part in all religious work. From the time of the organization of the Y. M. C. A. of Rockford he held an official position in it, and was a generous supporter of its work. He was a fine example of the Christian business man, and his characteristics impressed themselves on his fellow citizens. A Republican, he did his duty as a man, but never sought office.

REW, Robert, a member of the Rockford bar, was born in Somersetshire, England, in 1854. In 1867 he came to the United States, and located at Rockford. Here he attended the East Rockford High School, from which he was graduated in 1873, following which he taught school until 1880. During that period he studied law, and was admitted to the bar of Illinois in 1881, and immediately thereafter entered upon a general practice at Rockford, in which he has since continued.

In 1879 Mr. Rew was united in marriage with Nellie T. Goodwin. In politics Mr. Rew is a Republican, and during Gov. Deneen's administration, he was president of the board of trustees of the Illinois Northern Hospital for the Insane. Mr. Rew has exhibited his public spirit upon numerous occasions, and has served the city of Rockford in various capacities, and has always been enthusiastic with regard to securing its development.

RHOADES, Levi, page 709.

RHOADES, Martin. Some of the more representative of the earlier residents of Rockford have passed away, but the influences of their orderly lives remain and they are remembered for the good they accomplished while living. Among the men of this class was the late Martin V. Rhoades, who was born at Easton, N. Y., June 21, 1840, and died at Rockford, April 2, 1912. He was a son of David and Catherine (Beers) Rhoades, natives of New York state, and brother of Levi, Edward and John Rhoades, who are all now deceased, but were formerly prominent in Rockford history. The parents of these men brought their family to Illinois in 1852, having made a short stop at Honey Creek, Wis., on their way from New York state. Upon their arrival in Illinois they located at Rockford where the father worked at his trade of coopering.

When Martin V. Rhoades was seventeen years old he left home and engaged in a coopering business at Rockford. His quiet, business career was broken into by the Civil war, and in February, 1862, he enlisted in Company F, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until 1863, when he was discharged on account of disability. Upon his return to Rockford, he resumed his former business and continued in it until he retired, twenty years later. Subse-

quently he continued active in buying and selling real estate, and made considerable money in these transactions.

In December, 1865, Mr. Rhoades was married to Emetine P. Wheat, born in Oswego, N. Y., who died November 7, 1900. On January 8, 1902, Mr. Rhoades married (second) Mrs. Olive A. (Avery) Ainsworth, born March 31, 1847, in Stephenson County, Ill., a daughter of Samuel N. and Caroline (Sumner) Avery, of Hamburg, Erie County, N. Y., the former being a painting contractor. Mrs. Rhoades was the widow of John Ainsworth, who was born November 23, 1842, at Gloversville, N. Y., and died November 28, 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Ainsworth had three children, all of whom died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Avery, parents of Mrs. Rhoades, came to Rockford in 1848, and in 1850 Mr. Avery went overland to the gold fields of California, the trip taking six months. While there he mined and also conducted an eating house and through his enterprise made several thousand dollars. He returned by way of water to New York City, and thence to Rockford by rail. He had four children: Daniel Webster, who was born in 1844, is now deceased; Mrs. Rhoades; Mary Bell, who was born in 1849, is now deceased; and Charles Sumner, who was born in 1858, resides at Sherland, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Rhoades had no children. He was a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. In politics he was a Republican and served as councilman from the Fifth Ward for two terms. Since his death Mrs. Rhoades has lived in the large frame residence at No. 1213 South Main street, Rockford, that he left her.

RICHARDS, Daniel C., M. D. Of the practitioners of the healing art in Winnebago County, few are better known or more highly esteemed than Dr. Daniel C. Richards, of Rockford, whose well appointed offices are located at No. 321 East State street. He has passed practically all of his life in this state, having been born in Harrison Township, Winnebago County, August 11, 1838, and is a son of Samuel S. and Sarah (Brown) Richards, and a grandson of Daniel Richards of Connecticut, and Daniel and Elizabeth (Felts) Brown, of North Carolina.

Samuel S. Richards was born at Lima, Livingston County, N. Y., February 22, 1818, and in 1836 came to Rockford, Ill., where he purchased a property in Harrison Township on which he settled down to farming, being so engaged for a number of years. While still on the farm he opened a store and started a mercantile business, and there became the first postmaster. On November 7, 1837, he was married to Sarah Brown, who was born February 19, 1818, in North Carolina, and who had come to Illinois in that year with her brother, William Brown, and an uncle, Aaron Felts, for whom she kept house until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Richards then settled on a farm in Harrison Township, half way between the villages of Harrison and Durand, but later moved

to the village of Harrison, where Mr. Richards kept a store, and about 1857 moved to Owen Township and purchased land in the southwest part of the township, where both parents died, the father January 16, 1890, and the mother February 17, 1891. They had seven sons and seven daughters, of whom Dr. Daniel C. Richards is the oldest and the only one now living.

In the year 1859 Daniel C. Richards went to Niles, Mich., where he attended Mrs. Brown's Select School and taught school there himself for a short time, but in 1860 returned to Rockford, Ill., and had charge of a school in Harrison Township. He spent the year 1861 and the early part of 1862 at Durand, where he attended Prof. Taylor's Academy. On June 30, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, Seventy-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, being mustered into the service July 22, 1862, for 100 days. His company was assigned to service at the arsenal at Mound City, and in October, 1862, when Doctor Richards was given his honorable discharge, he returned to Rockford and in 1863 hired out in the quartermaster's department. He arrived at Stone River three days after the awful battle at that place, and was subsequently in different departments, handling supplies for the Army of the Cumberland. Starting at a salary of \$25 per month, he made himself so valuable to his employers that when he finished he was receiving \$150 per month. After the surrender of General Lee and the subsequent close of the war, Doctor Richards went to Saint Louis, Mo., where he was married October 25, 1865, to Hannah P. Houck, who was born in Madison County, Ill., a daughter of Ross and Lucinda A. (Gunderman) Houck, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia.

After their marriage Dr. and Mrs. Richards went to Clarksville, Tenn., the Doctor still employed in the quartermaster's department. After Lee's surrender they went to Macoupin County, Ill., and then to Montgomery County, Ill., where Doctor Richards went to work breaking up raw prairie land belonging to his father-in-law. He farmed there until April, 1889, and during this time he served fifteen years as clerk and Sunday school superintendent of Prairie Grove Baptist church. Then he moved to Owen Township, Winnebago County, and later bought out the interests in his father's old home, and in 1902 moved to Rockford, although he still owns the homestead, a tract of 135 acres which is being conducted by his son.

Dr. Richards entered the field of healing in 1900, when, on November 10, he began a course at the Chicago School of Psychology; on May 6, 1902, he went to the National School of Osteopathy; on July 24, 1902, to the Golden Cross Eye, Ear and Throat Institute; November 15, 1902, he took a course in Nevada, Mo., and November 18, 1902, he entered the Institute of Physicians and Surgeons of New York. Since that time he has attended the American College of Sciences, Philadelphia, and the National

School of Magnetic Healing, at Carrollton, Mo. He commenced practice at Durand and in the vicinity, but in 1902 established himself in an office at Rockford, on the corner of East State and Madison streets, but on May 17 of the same year, moved to his present place, No. 321 East State street, where he maintains an entire flat for his office and living apartments. He has built up a large and representative practice and has some remarkable cures to his credit.

Dr. and Mrs. Richards have one son, Frank Claud, now of Owen Township, Winnebago County. He married Elizabeth Pederson, and has four children: Hattie Lillian, Frederick, Mabel and Ray. Dr. and Mrs. Richards are members of the State Street Baptist Church. A Republican in politics, he has held public office at various times, and while living in Montgomery County, Ill., served two terms as a justice of the peace in Pitman Township and for twelve years was clerk of the school board. He was one of the first to organize the Grange in that section and there was founded the first council of county Granges, of which Dr. Richards was secretary and purchasing agent for many years. He is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, Grand Army of the Republic, and Lodge No. 51, Modern Woodmen of America.

Mrs. Richards was born June 14, 1839, and like her husband is still bright and active and in full possession of all her faculties. She attended Rockford College as a young woman. In 1860, when she joined the Baptist church, she was baptized in Rock River by the Reverend Mitchell. She belongs to the Woman's Relief Corps of the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, in which she has been an active worker.

RICHARDSON, Charles H., who is now living at Roscoe, Ill., retired from his former agricultural pursuits, stands very high in the estimation of his community. He was born in New York state, January 8, 1834, a son of Benjamin and Mary Ann (Welch) Richardson. The father was born in New York state, a son of Benjamin Richardson a manufacturer of tools and stump-pulling machinery. After his marriage, the father of Charles H. Richardson came to Illinois and settled at Roscoe, entering sixty acres from the government, on which he erected a log house and occupied it for fifteen years, later replacing it with one of cement. After some years he went to West Haven, Conn., and there died in 1877, aged seventy-three years. His first wife died in the old log house at Roscoe. He later married Catherine Meeks, who also died at Roscoe. For his third wife, Mr. Richardson married a Mrs. Tubbs, who died in West Haven, Conn., and after the death of Mr. Richardson was interred beside him in Connecticut.

Growing up at Roscoe, C. H. Richardson attended its schools, and developed into a farmer. After his retirement in 1911, he settled

in the town of Roscoe. He was quite a hunter in the early days, and once killed a bear in his father's corn field. He saw Indians almost every day during the time when the Red Man still roamed over Winnebago County.

When he was twenty-five years old, Charles H. Richardson was married to Mary V. Greagory, who died at Roscoe. For his second wife he married Mary Tubbs, who died in Connecticut. She was the mother of his three daughters: Ella, Minnie and Lillie. His third wife was Margaret McAfee, a daughter of John and Adeline (Alden) McAfee. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson have two children, namely: Minnie, who lives in Youngstown, Ohio; and Lillie, who is Mrs. Milo Horak and lives in Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. McAfee, parents of Mrs. Richardson, were born in Pennsylvania but moved to Illinois about the year 1839. They were married at Byron, Ill. At one time they owned a part of the old Lovejoy farm in Harlem Township, but in 1860 they sold this and bought a farm of 120 acres north of Roscoe.

RICHARDSON, Lionel W., formerly a business man of Roscoe, Ill., and one of the men who played an important part in the early history of Winnebago County, was born at Johnstown, N. Y., January 17, 1828, a son of Benjamin and Judith (Mason) Richardson. Benjamin Richardson was born at Spencer, Mass., February 24, 1782, where his wife was born, February 9, 1790, and they were there married. They moved to Johnstown, N. Y., and spent some time at that place. Mr. Richardson died at Fultonville, N. Y., December 20, 1838. His widow in 1844 went back to Massachusetts, and two years later, in 1846, came to Roscoe, Winnebago County. Some time later she went to Nebraska, but died January 14, 1878, at Genoa, Ill.

Lionel W. Richardson spent his boyhood in New York state, where he received such educational training as was offered by the schools of his neighborhood. On February 1, 1853, he started west, and located at Roscoe, Ill., where he later invented the Diamond plow, and still later began to manufacture this implement at Rockford.

In 1854 Mr. Richardson went to Worcester, Mass., and there was married to Miss Maria L. Jones, a daughter of John and Sylvia (Day) Jones, and returned to Roscoe with his wife. She passed away here September 4, 1881. On February 1, 1883, he was married (second) at Chicago, to Mrs. Isabella (Jones) Richardson, a niece of his first wife, and she survives, making her home at Roscoe.

In addition to his other activities, Mr. Richardson was engaged in an elevator business until he was burned out, and also dealt in stock. He was a partner of W. H. Gregory in the manufacture of plows, this association continuing until 1878, when he sold to go into operating his elevator. He bought the oldest residence at Roscoe, and rebuilt it, making it a very comfortable home. He was a Republican

in politics in early manhood, but did not desire public honors, but at death was a Prohibitionist. A man of natural genius, he also knew how to take advantage of opportunities as they were presented, and in many ways exerted a strong influence on the affairs of his neighborhood. He was a self-made man and always was a close student.

RICHINGS, Charles H., page 646.

RICKER, Ephraim G., was born in Boston, Mass., March 14, 1829. While yet a child his parents moved to Biddeford, Me., where he grew to manhood. In 1851 he came to Rockford, after a short stay he went to Memphis, Tenn., but soon returned to this city, coming by boat as far as Galena, Ill., thence by team to his destination. He began clerking in a hardware store and later was engaged in various callings. He at one time was elected constable on the Republican ticket, and was returned to that office several terms. He also served as deputy sheriff. He belonged to Rockford Lodge of Masons No. 102, A. F. and A. M., being the oldest member of this organization at the time of his death.

In 1853 Mr. Ricker married Elizabeth C. Lewis, daughter of Edmund Lewis, at Lynn, Mass., where she was born in October, 1830. They were the parents of four children that are now living: Emerson E. Ricker, who married Stella Warren, resides in Rockford; Etta, who married Charles Agge, resides in Haverhill, Mass.; Myrtie, who married Capt. James A. Ruggles, U. S. A., lives now at New Rochelle, N. Y., and Minnie, who married Samuel Hollis, resides in Chicago. There were ten other children, who died in childhood. Mr. Ricker made his home, prior to his death, which occurred January 11, 1916, with his daughter, Mrs. Hollis. His burial was at Rockford.

RIDER, J. G., president of The J. G. Rider Pen Co., with office and factory located at No. 2600 W. State street, Rockford, has been successful in placing upon the market and making popular an invention of his own. He was born on a farm near Leroy, N. Y., April 4, 1869, a son of Ebenezer and Fannie W. (Hovey) Rider. The father was born in the same locality as his son, and the mother was born near Rochester, N. Y. In addition to farming, the father was inventive and interested in various patent rights, so that the son possibly inherited some of his genius. For a time Ebenezer Rider operated a farm he had bought near Huntley, Ill., but later returned to Leroy, where he bought and operated his father's farm, and there died in 1882, aged fifty-six years. In politics he was a Republican, fraternally was an Odd Fellow, and in religious faith was a Presbyterian. His widow survives, being now seventy-nine years old.

J. G. Rider lived on the homestead until thirteen years old, when he went to Bergen, N. Y., and became a clerk in a mercantile establishment, at the same time attending school when

occasion offered. After the death of his father he came to Rockford with his mother and family and found employment with the W. F. & John Barnes Company, where he remained for three years. He then became an instructor in a business college and so continued for eighteen months, when he went on the road as a salesman for the Diamond Ink Company of Milwaukee, Wis., and also sold fountain pens, and so continued for fifteen years. During this period he experimented with fountain pens and invented the Rider Perfection fountain pen, which offered superior advantages to anything then on the market. After succeeding in producing a superior product he patented it, and in 1903 organized The J. G. Rider Pen Co., of which he is president. He has just completed a new, self-filling pen, which reduces the number of parts in the mechanism from five to one and gives equal efficiency, and he has applied for a patent. He is also the inventor of the Brushwell paste bottle, which has come into such general use, and he is constantly working to secure improvements on utilitarian articles, having natural inventive genius along this line.

In 1889 Mr. Rider married Miss Lucy E. Robbins, a daughter of Elder Robbins of Kaneville, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Rider have had the following children: Lucille E., who died at the age of three years; Clea M., who died at the age of six and one-half years; and H. Kenneth, J. Merle, Theodore Bruce and Roselle D.

Mr. Rider is an active member of the State Street Baptist Church. Politically he has always been independent, believing that party lines are too narrow to meet the public needs. Corinne Rider-Kelsey, the famous singer, is a sister.

RIDGLEY, Edward. Few men who risked life and limb during the Civil war, to preserve the integrity of the Union, fail to look back with pride upon their service as soldiers, and it is only just and right that their bravery and loyalty be appropriately recognized. Rockford numbers among its substantial citizens old soldiers who, in the years that followed the mighty conflict, proved themselves equally desirable as private citizens. One of these veterans and business men of the city is Edward Ridgley. He was born at Chambersburg, Pa., August 26, 1846, a son of Richard and Ellen (O'Neil) Ridgley, natives of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The father was a moulder by trade. He went to Pennsylvania and there married, and died in that state in 1873. The mother passed away in 1890.

Until he was twenty years old, Edward Ridgley remained at home, and then went to Chicago, where he worked at his trade of a plasterer, which he learned in Baltimore, Md., and remained there until 1866. In that year he came to Rockford, where he has since remained with the exception of three years, between 1871 and 1874, which he spent at Chicago. Upon his return to Rockford he resumed his trade and later entered into a contracting business which has been developed into a very

flourishing one. In June, 1863, Mr. Ridgley enlisted for service during the Civil war, at Chambersburg, Pa., in Company I, Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry, and was assigned to the Shenandoah Valley and did scout duty there and in different parts of Virginia. He participated in a number of engagements and skirmishes. Mr. Ridgley received his honorable discharge in March, 1864, and returned to his Pennsylvania home, where he remained until he left for a more western location.

In May, 1873, Mr. Ridgley was married at Arlington Heights, Ill., to Mary Wehrli, born at Wheeling, Cook County, Ill., a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Wehrli) Wehrli, natives of Switzerland. Mr. and Mrs. Ridgley became the parents of the following children: Mary Ellen, who is Mrs. George Wheat, of Rockford; Edna, who is at home; Frank R., who resides at Rockford; and Irma, who is at home. Mr. Ridgley belongs to Winnebago Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 31, and Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., of which he has been commander since January, 1914. In the spring of 1898, Mr. Ridgley raised Company D, Twelfth Provisional Regiment of Illinois, for service during the Spanish-American war, Hon. Charles Fuller, ex-congressman, of Belvidere, Ill., being colonel of the regiment. This regiment was not required, but held itself in readiness in case it was needed.

RISBERG, E. B., junior member of the firm of Clark & Risberg, retail and wholesale grain dealers, located at No. 610 Seventh street, Rockford, is one of the substantial business men of Rockford. He has risen to his present position through his own efforts, unaided by influential friends or favors of fortune. He was born at Minneapolis, Minn., April 20, 1893, a son of Nels and Oline (Hanson) Risberg.

Nels Risberg was born in Sweden and his wife was born in Norway, and they were married in Sweden. Early in life he learned the tailoring trade, and when he came with his wife to the United States he first found employment at this trade at LaCrosse, Wis., and soon after his arrival established himself as a merchant tailor. Later selling his business at LaCrosse, he went to Minneapolis, Minn., where he was engaged in merchant tailoring for a year, but then went back to LaCrosse, where once more he established himself as a merchant tailor, and continued in that business there until his death, April 28, 1906, when he was sixty-three years old. His widow survives and lives at LaCrosse. In politics Mr. Risberg was a Republican. He belonged to the Norwegian Lutheran Church.

E. B. Risberg was educated in the public schools of LaCrosse, Wis., and learned the blacksmithing trade, which he followed for four years. He then entered the Bradley Polytechnic Institute, at Peoria, Ill., and continued there for two years, when he returned to LaCrosse and engaged with the Trane Company, plumbers, and was there for a short period. Mr. Risberg then took a position with the Shannon & Mott Company, dealers in flour, of Des

Moines, Iowa, and was with this concern until they retired from business. On November 9, 1914, he associated himself with A. W. Clark, in a grain and brokerage business, at No. 610 Seventh street, where they are enjoying a very prosperous trade. They handle grain and feed, butter and eggs at both retail and wholesale, and are now the wholesale dealers of Downey's Delight Oleomargarine. Mr. Risberg is a Republican and is a director of the Seventh Street Business Men's Association and belongs to the Knights of Pythias. He is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

RISBERG, William F. The business interests of Rockford are so many and so varied in character that ample range is provided here for the exercise of talents of all kinds, and men achieve a prosperity in this city that might not have been theirs elsewhere. One who is deserving of special mention in a work of this class is William F. Risberg, whose operations as a shoe merchant have brought him into notice as one of Rockford's successful business men. He was born at Altona, Ill., December 21, 1882, a son of J. P. and Anna (Aspergren) Risberg.

After a boyhood spent at Rockford, W. F. Risberg accepted a position with the Forbes Foundry Company, prior to that having completed his course in the city public schools. For three years he remained with this company and then went with the Love Manufacturing Company foundry, and was there for seven years. The following year he was with the Illinois Sewing Machine Company, receiving \$18 per week for his services. Mr. Risberg then became clerk for the E. & W. Shoe Store, and continued with it for seven years. He had, during all this period, proven himself a man of his word, capable and industrious, and so when he decided to establish himself in a shoe business, he found no difficulty in securing credit, and no one who trusted him had any reason to regret such action, for from the start Mr. Risberg was successful and met every obligation honorably and promptly. He is now the proprietor of one of the finest shoe stores in Rockford and numbers among his customers the very best and most particular people of the city. His establishment is conveniently located at No. 317 Seventh street. His present prosperity is the outgrowth of his own, unaided efforts, and his success is an encouragement to others to follow his example.

On July 19, 1900, Mr. Risberg was married to Miss Lillian Kuopprath, a daughter of Conrad Kuopprath of Kingston, Ill. They have two children, Clenna B. and William F., Jr.

ROBERG, William B. Each year of civilization undoubtedly brings deeper appreciation of the artistic combined with the utilitarian, and more people demand that their surroundings express as much beauty as possible without the sacrifice of needful usefulness. Out of this demand has grown the manufacture and sale of arts and crafts furniture, and one of the men who is

finding the handling of this line of goods very profitable, is William B. Roberg of No. 221 E. State street, Rockford. He was born at Rockford, April 19, 1885, a son of William P. and Christine Roberg. William P. Roberg was born at Oland, Sweden, and there he married. He was a contractor in his native land before leaving it for the United States, in 1881, and after locating at Rockford, he continued as a contractor, and has executed the contracts that have produced some of the finest buildings in the city, both residences and business blocks. He is still engaged in this line. Although somewhat prominent as a Republican, he has not entered public life as an official.

William B. Roberg grew up at Rockford, where he attended the grammar and high schools, and the Rockford Business College. Later he learned the carpenter trade with his father and was engaged in a contracting business for eight years. He then went in with the D. R. Meade Co., furniture dealers on S. Main street, and continued this association for two and one-half years. Mr. Roberg then bought out the furniture business of K. Blankenberg at No. 221 E. State street, which he still owns and conducts. His furniture is noted for its artistic beauty, and his patrons increase in number, those who are appreciative going back to him, once they have dealt with him. Fraternally Mr. Roberg is an Elk.

ROBERTS, Charles Augustus, now living in honorable retirement at Rockford, was during earlier years one of the most industrious workers of the city, his activities being directed towards the furniture interests. He was born at East Lulworth, Dorsetshire, England, December 29, 1844, a son of Moses and Frances (Lucas) Roberts, natives of England. The father died in England, and the mother later married Frederick Champ, and in 1854 they came to Rockford, where Mr. Champ became a moulder for Clark & Utter, and continued to work at that trade until 1882, when he retired. He died May 2, 1911. The mother died June 19, 1903. Mr. Champ was a sailor prior to coming to the United States, and was on the yacht Alarm that lost the cup to this country in the first yacht race ever run for international honors. This yacht had won every trophy, hence considerable interest was felt in this race, which took place August 22, 1851, for what was called the Royal Yacht Squadron Cup. The course of the race was around the Isle of Wight, and Queen Victoria and Prince Edward of Wales attended on the royal yacht. The American boat won by twenty minutes. There were fourteen boats entered.

Charles Augustus Roberts was the second child in the family of four children born to his parents, the others being: Henry G., who is deceased; Sarah A., who is the widow of Jesse B. Fay, resides at No. 724 N. First street, Rockford; and Frances, who is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Champ had two sons: Edwin, who is deceased; and George H., who lives at Logan,

Utah. Brought up in England and at Rockford, Charles A. Roberts attended the common schools, and in 1862 began working on Winnebago County farms, so continuing for four years, when he transferred his attention to a manufacturing line and entered the sash, door and blind factory of La Point & Derwent, of Rockford, and remained with this firm for five years. He then worked for a season at Dixon, Ill., when, returning to Rockford, he erected a fine residence at No. 618 N. Second street. Mr. Roberts then began working for G. W. Bradley, in a sash, door and blind factory, and remained with him for eight years, then was employed in an agricultural implement business for W. A. Knowlton for thirteen months. He then became one of the original stockholders in the Co-operative Furniture Company, and worked in the machine department and on bench work some years, and for one year he was superintendent, remaining there in all eighteen years. Still later he became a stockholder in the Mechanics' Furniture Company, and worked in its factory until 1910, when he retired from active business.

On January 31, 1872, Mr. Roberts was married to Maryette E. Newton, born August 27, 1844, at Canandaigua, N. Y., a daughter of Elias and Delia (Benham) Newton, born at Hopewell, N. Y., and in Dutchess County, N. Y. There are no children. Mr. Roberts was brought up in the faith of the Episcopal Church. While he is a Republican, he reserves the right to think and act independent of party lines when he sees fit to do so.

ROBERTSON, Thomas D., page 657.

ROBERTSON, William Taylor, president of the Winnebago National Bank of Rockford and one of the sound, conservative business men of Winnebago County, has done as much if not more than any other man in this section to shape the financial policy of Rockford and the territory adjacent to it, and to establish the reliability of the business houses located therein. He was born at Rockford, Ill., February 22, 1850, a son of Thomas Duncan and Elizabeth Ann (Taylor) Robertson.

Thomas Duncan Robertson came to the United States in 1839, from Edinburgh, Scotland, at the age of twenty-one years. Locating at Rockford, Ill., he was in a land business, and then studying law, formed a partnership for its practice with a Mr. Holland under the firm name of Robertson & Holland. These gentlemen, in 1848, embarked in a private banking business, and Mr. Robertson continued an owner of it until his death on February 2, 1902, although, in the meanwhile, several changes had taken place in its management. In 1851 the name was changed to that of Robertson, Coleman & Co., and in 1863 it became Robertson & Starr, so continuing until the bank was reorganized and incorporated as The Winnebago National Bank. He married Elizabeth Ann Taylor, who died in May, 1878, and they had six children, as follows: two who died in

infancy; Elizabeth, who died at the age of eight years; William T., fourth in order of birth; Jane Melvina, who died at the age of nineteen years; and Mary Palmer, who became Mrs. David N. Starr, and lives at Clearwater, Fla.

Growing up in his native place, William T. Robertson attended the city's public schools, including its high school, and a preparatory school in Massachusetts. Following this he had a year's experience in an insurance office, when he became bookkeeper of the Winnebago National Bank, with which concern he has since been connected, rising successively until in 1902, upon the death of his father, he was made its president, which office he continues to hold. He is a member of the Elks, and socially is connected with the Union League, Equestrian and Bankers' clubs, all of Chicago. During his boyhood and youth he attended both the Congregational and Episcopal churches.

In 1873 Mr. Robertson was married to Edith White, a daughter of Sheldon F. and Emily (Wood) White. Mr. and Mrs. Robertson have two children, namely: Edith Mary, who married Ralph G. Root, was widowed in 1909, and now resides at Rockford; and Arthur W., who is one of the assistant cashiers of the Winnebago National Bank.

The influence of the Robertson family on Rockford affairs has been powerful and extends over a period of about seventy years. The present bearers of the name are excellent representatives of the founder of the family in Winnebago County, and many of his excellent qualities are inherited by them.

ROGERS, Daniel, electrical and steam engineer for the Haddorff Piano Company of Rockford, with residence at No. 1321 Twenty-first street, has had experience and is well fitted to discharge the duties pertaining to his responsible position. He was born in Putnam County, Ind., June 6, 1888, a son of Thomas H. and Amanda (Steele) Rogers, natives of Indiana.

Daniel Rogers was educated in the high school of his native place, and supplemented this by a course with the Scranton Correspondence School. His first work was on the home farm, but he later became engineer for a concern in his native state, and in 1910 he came to Rockford to become fireman for the Knickerbocker Ice Company. This concern promoted him to the position of engineer, and after a period of efficient service, he went with the Forest City Creamery as engineer. His next employment was with the Bert Allen Ice Cream factory, and then in 1913 he was made general engineer for the Haddorff Piano Company, and has continued with this concern ever since.

Mr. Rogers was married to Beatrice Pyle and they have one son, Ellsworth M. Mr. Rogers belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, the N. A. S. E. and Fraternal Union of America. A live, progressive young man, filled with ambitious ideas, he has come to the front and is recognized as a leader in his line.

ROGERS, James, one of the progressive business men and stable citizens of Rockford, whose industry and thrift have placed him among the men of means of his community, is a member of the firm of Rogers Bros., galvanizers, at No. 544 N. Court street. He was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, October 17, 1856, a son of William and Helen (McGeachia) Rogers. The father, a native of Scotland, came to the United States in 1858, and located at Argyle, Harlem Township, Winnebago County, where he became a mason contractor, having carried on that same line of business in Scotland. Later he bought a farm in Harlem Township, but subsequently retired and passed away in 1909, aged seventy-seven years. The mother survives. The father was a Republican in politics. He and his wife belonged to the Argyle Presbyterian Church.

James Rogers was reared at Argyle, Roscoe, and Rockford, Ill., and was educated in the latter place. His first employment was with James Lane at Rockford, and he later was with the John McDermaid Churn Company for a short time. Following that he worked for Dr. Lane, taking charge of his farm of 1,400 acres near Rochelle, Ill., and there he remained for five years. Returning to this county, Mr. Rogers engaged in the meat business at Winnebago, later going back to Rockford where he once more was connected with Dr. Lane, they going into the galvanizing business, and at the death of his partner, Mr. Rogers purchased the plant, and later took his brothers, D. F. and W. H. and A. T. into partnership with him. At present these brothers are operating galvanizing plants at Rockford, Freeport and Batavia, Ill. They manufacture galvanized steel castings, windmills and similar goods, and their product is sold over a wide field.

In 1892 Mr. Rogers was married to Miss Ada M. Collson and they have three children, namely: Mary H., Louis A., and Dorothy E. Mr. Rogers owns a beautiful residence at No. 544 N. Court street, and spends his winters in Florida. He belongs to the order of Elks. His progress has been steady and his advancement rapid, and his success in life may be justly attributed to his determination to do well whatever he undertook, and to live up to his business agreements.

ROHLEN, Edward V. Merchandising calls forth business ability of a high order, and Rockford affords an enviable field for operations of large magnitude along this line. One of the men who has found it profitable to devote himself to this branch of commercial life is Edward V. Rohlen at No. 1019 Fourteenth avenue. He was born at Galesburg, Ill., May 17, 1880, a son of Olaf and Inga (Erickson) Rohlen. Olaf Rohlen was born at Blekinge, Sweden, where he was educated and taught the decorator's trade. This he followed and was also a musical instructor in both vocal and instrumental music. In 1867 he left his native land, being convinced that the United States offered more opportunities to an

ambitious man, and stopped at Galesburg, Ill., until 1893, in which year he came to Rockford, having in the meanwhile built up a fine decorating business, and having married. At Rockford he established himself in a painting contracting business and continued to operate the same until his death at the age of fifty-nine years. His widow survives and makes her home with her son, Edward V. In politics the father was a Republican.

Edward V. Rohlen was educated at Galesburg and there became associated with Daniel Drane in a dry goods business in the old Scotch Dry Goods House. This association continued for three years, when Mr. Drane died, and Mr. Rohlen went to Sharon, Wis., where he was in a dry goods business for three years. He was with the T. P. Burns' branch store at Zanesville, Wis., for ten months, then went to the main store of this company at Zanesville for three years. He then came to Rockford to assist his father in the decorating business, and after the latter's death, went on the road for the Rockford Shoe Manufacturing Company, and was with them for two years, and then traveled for the C. S. Ledger Shoe Findings Company for three years. He then embarked in his present business at No. 1019 Fourteenth avenue, on July 21, 1906, being one of the first to found a business house on this thoroughfare. For some time he has been president of the South End Business Men's Association, being the first president and continuing up to the present time. In politics he is a Republican.

In 1908 Mr. Rohlen was married to Miss Lillian Beach, who died in 1908, and they had one child, Grace Lillian, who through her mother, is of English descent. In 1913 Mr. Rohlen was married (second) to Miss Hannah Olander, a daughter of Olaf Olander of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Rohlen have one child, Eleanor B. A sound business man, Mr. Rohlen enjoys a fine trade and ranks high among his associates.

ROLASON, Horace B., one of the leading agriculturalists of Winnebago County, belongs to an old and honored family of Durand Township. He was born in this township on section 16, September 12, 1865, a son of Horace J. Rolason, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. He was educated in the country schools of his township and the Durand High School, and lived with his parents, giving them devoted attention.

On January 1, 1901, Mr. Rolason was married to Iva Boomer of Durand Township, a daughter of Edward Boomer, now of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Rolason are the parents of two children, namely: Helen and Hortense. Since his marriage, Mr. Rolason had carried on his farming operations separate from those of his father, and has always raised Poland-China hogs and Durham cattle. When his father died, he came into possession of the 144-acre farm which he has since operated. Mr. Rolason has owned several stallions for breeding purposes, two famous ones, being a registered Percheron

and a carriage horse. He has probably raised more first class horses than any other man in Winnebago County, and often has bought large numbers of them for others and for speculative purposes. Since 1914, however, he has discontinued raising horses. Since July 1, 1915, he has been agent for the Oakland Automobile Company. In politics he is a Republican, and for the past two years has been a member of the Durand village board. A man of the hour, he has known how to grasp opportunities as presented, and has made a success of whatever he has undertaken.

ROLASON, Horace J. The late Horace J. Rolason was one of the most representative men Winnebago County possessed and during his residence in the agricultural regions, through his enterprise and good judgment, rendered valuable services to farmers in his neighborhood. He was born in Sussex, N. J., April 27, 1827, and died at Durand, Ill., December 19, 1909. He was a son of William and Eveline (Corcellius) Rolason, the former a pioneer of New Jersey, where he died from injuries when Horace J. was nine years old. The American Rolason family is descended from Charles Rolason, who came to America from Liverpool, England. He made his home at Boston, Mass., where he reared three children, Isah, Henry and Mary. Isah Rolason, the paternal grandfather, was a farmer and a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He reared a family of eight children: John, Peter, William, James, Mary, Katie, Anna and Sarah. Of these children, William Rolason, the father of Horace J., was born December 31, 1788. He was a farmer and he served in the War of 1812. His death occurred June 2, 1836, the mother living until 1861. Their children were as follows: Asa, Mrs. Maria Crain, Mrs. Martha Cole and Horace J., all of whom are now deceased.

Horace J. Rolason remained on his father's farm in New Jersey until January 1, 1853, when he married Mary Jane Van Sickle, a native of New Jersey. In December, 1855, Horace J. Rolason, with his wife and their two children, came to Illinois, locating in Winnebago County, on a farm one-half mile west and one-half a mile south of Durand, in Durand Township. Mr. Rolason added to his possessions until he had 120 acres which he improved, and he also worked on the construction of the railroad which came to Durand in 1856. He continued to reside on his first farm until 1886, when he purchased 144 acres, a part of which is included in the limits of Durand Village. On this property he also made many improvements, erecting buildings, fencing, and putting in tile, and on it carried on general farming and raised thoroughbred Jersey cattle and Poland-China hogs. He also kept excellent horses. He and his wife held membership in the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Rolason was survived by his widow until April 14, 1915. They had five children: Ella, who is the widow of David Place, has had children, Jesse E., deceased, and Vida; Ida; Lillie, who is the widow of Eugene Hoyt, has

one son, Ralph E.; John V., who quite recently sold the homestead; and Horace B., whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Horace J. Rolason was a Republican and for a number of years was president of the village board of Durand. For half a century he was a member of the Masonic order.

ROOT, John Barnes, for years was an important factor in the life of Winnebago County, and the influence of his useful, honorable life remains. He was born in New York state May 5, 1843, a son of Harvey and Polly Ann (Barnes) Root, natives of a New England state and of New York, respectively. They were married in New York and there Harvey Root carried on a blacksmith business.

In young manhood John Barnes Root went to Michigan, with an uncle, for the purpose of attending the University of Michigan, and he carried out his purpose and was graduated from that institution in 1865. For a time he was with Owen Barnes, at Mason, Mich., and then entered the Michigan Law School from which he was graduated, and for the two following years he practiced law at Mason. His health failing he then came to Rockford, Ill., and first engaged in market gardening, and later developed a seed business. In conjunction with this line he became a writer for the American Agriculturist, the Prairie Farmer, and Moore's Rural New Yorker, and did so well and demonstrated his theories so practically that he gained a world wide reputation which of course increased his business. Unfortunately he never regained his health and death claimed him in November, 1876. After his demise his widow conducted the business for about four years, then sold it and since then has lived in her residence on North Church street.

On December 31, 1868, Mr. Root was married to Ella Giddings, born at Havana, N. Y., a daughter of Ralph and Cornelia E. (Flemings) Giddings, he born at Sherman, Conn., and she at Romulus, N. Y. In 1854 they came to Rockford. Prior to coming to Rockford, Mr. Giddings was a cabinetmaker, but after his arrival in this county, he, with another man, bought a farm in the city limits of Rockford, now covered with residences. There he farmed for a few years, and then set his property out with small fruit trees and made a success in raising fruit. His death occurred in March, 1895. Mrs. Giddings died in December of that same year. Their children were: Charles M., who resides at Rockford, and Mrs. Root. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Root were as follows: Therese C., who died in infancy; Albert Barnes, who also died in infancy; and Ralph Giddings, who died in October, 1909, aged thirty-five years, married Edith M. Robertson of Rockford. He was manager of the Dairy Shippers' Dispatch, Chicago, and possessed great business ability. Mrs. Root belongs to the Westminster Presbyterian Church, which her father helped to build. She is a member of the Daughters of

the American Revolution, the Woman's Club and the Mendelssohn Club.

Since the death of Mr. Root Mrs. Root and her brother, Charles M. Giddings, have resided together. He was born at Havana, N. Y., and is a mechanical engineer and inventor. He married Anna A. Van Duyn, born at Romulus, N. Y. Their children are as follows: Czarina J., who is a teacher in the Rockford High School; Corwin Holly, who lives at Peoria, Ill., is in the advertising business; Cornelia E., who is manager of the Pittsburgh, Pa., high school lunch room; and Ralph Vandine, who is a landscape architect, lives at Augusta, Ga.

ROTHWELL, William A., one of the most highly respected pioneers of Winnebago County, was born in Marion Township, Ogle County, Ill., February 19, 1838, a son of Robert Rothwell, and grandson of Rev. Thomas Andros. The latter was born in 1759, and died in 1846, aged eighty-seven years.

Robert Rothwell was born in Lancashire, England, June 2, 1803, and died June 14, 1884. He was a calico printer in England and came to the United States in 1826, landing in Massachusetts where he remained five years. He then moved to Loraine, Ohio, where he remained for five years, and then came to Illinois in March, 1837. In the spring of 1829, he had married Miss Susan Andros, a daughter of a Revolutionary soldier, at Berkley, Mass., and she died in June, 1882. After coming to Illinois, Robert Rothwell bought 160 acres of land and farmed it. For years a Universalist, in 1840 he joined the Methodist Episcopal Church. Decidedly anti-slavery in his views, he soon found that his fellow members were pro-slavery, and he cast his lot with the Wesleyan Methodists, although reproached for his action as he had been very active in building up the church and preaching and giving counsel. He attended thirty annual conferences as a lay delegate, and seven general conferences. As he had a local license to preach he often gave his services for the cause. For the last five or six years of his life he was an invalid owing to paralysis. He and his wife had two children, namely: Thomas, who was born in 1834, died at the age of four years; and William.

In 1858 William Rothwell was married to Nancy Bartleman, a daughter of George and Jennie (Kirkwood) Bartleman. She was born September 1, 1838. Her father was born in Scotland, and her mother at Glasgow, Scotland, and died at the age of sixty-two years. They were brought to Canada by their parents at an early day, and there were married. When Mrs. Rothwell was seven years old the family moved to New York state, and when she was sixteen, they came to Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Rothwell have had three children, namely: Abbie, who is now Mrs. George Stevens, was born January 30, 1859, and she has four children, Harry, Clara, Alma, and Orla; Lester, born March 18, 1870, who married Mabel Fullerton, March 20, 1900, and they have three children, Vivian, Dean and Harley; Leslie, a son who died in

infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Rothwell have also an adopted daughter, Alice Duzan, whom they took when she was two years old and reared as their own child. She married Clarence Konkle in October, 1911, and they had one child, Alfred, deceased.

During the Civil War, Mr. Rothwell enlisted on August 7, 1862, in Company K, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered out June 27, 1865. From August until September after his enlistment, he was at Camp Fuller, and then his regiment was hurried south to take part in the battle of Perryville. From then on until the close of the war the regiment was in almost constant action, being in the Nashville campaign against Bragg, the march through Georgia, then back to Nashville. During his period of service Mr. Rothwell was in thirty battles. The winter of 1864-5 was spent at Huntsville, Ala. While he was in action near Marietta, he received a bullet wound in the neck, while in a rifle pit with Roger Brown and Leonard Marsh. Mrs. Rothwell made her home with his people while he was away. It is a remarkable fact that the little three and one-half year old child he left remembered him upon his return. Mr. Rothwell was at one time supervisor of his township, and he is now a justice of the peace. He owns his farm of 163½ acres in New Milford Township. He is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., Rockford, Ill.

ROWE, Harry R., cashier of the American Express Company, with office at No. 207 S. Main street, Rockford, is an example of what a young man can accomplish if he be intelligent, industrious and reliable. He was born at Mt. Morris, Ill., November 23, 1883, a son of Wesley and Anna (Royer) Rowe. These parents were born at Hagerstown, Md., and Chambersburg, Pa., respectively. In young manhood, the father located at Mt. Morris, later moving to Rockford. During the years he spent at the former place he was engaged in farming, but he and wife now live retired, in this city, both being held in high esteem. In politics he is a Democrat.

Harry R. Rowe was reared at Mt. Morris, and there educated. In 1902, when the family came to Rockford, he entered the employ of the Burson Knitting Company and remained two years, and then for five years was with the Rockford Mitten and Hosiery Company. In 1909 he became a driver for the American Express Company, and his reliability and dependable qualities were recognized to such an extent that he was promoted until he is now cashier of the local office of this company.

In 1913 Mr. Rowe was married to Miss Bessie Evans, a daughter of Charles and Adaline (Cartier) Evans. In politics Mr. Rowe is a Republican.

ROWLAND, William M., page 707.

ROWLEY, Edwin R., who has property interests at Rockford and is a man of substance,

standing high in public esteem, was born in Guilford Township, this county, October 14, 1848, a son of Isaac H. and Harriet A. (Monroe) Rowley, the former born at Riga, and the latter at Troy, both in New York state. The mother was brought to Winnebago Township, Winnebago County, in 1838, by her father, Levi Monroe, and there he secured land. Isaac H. Rowley and two other young men came to Winnebago County in 1839. They all lived together in Guilford Township until Mr. Rowley married, when he moved upon eighty acres of land he had bought in the township. Like many others, during the gold excitement of 1849, he made the long and dangerous journey overland to California, going with Harvey Silsby. After four years he sold his interest to his partner, according to an agreement made at the beginning of their association, that either was free to withdraw when he felt like it, and returned by way of Cape Horn to New York City; thence on the railroad to Chicago, from which place he rode by stage coach to Rockford. Upon his return, Mr. Rowley resumed farming in Guilford Township, and died there in 1892, the mother passing away in the fall of 1911, an aged lady, as she was born June 5, 1824. Their children were as follows: Walter W., who is deceased; Edwin R.; Milton C., who is deceased; and Harry H., who lives on the homestead.

Edwin R. Rowley attended the district schools of Guilford Township, and had one term at Lownsbury College. He assisted his father until he went on the Welty farm just east of Rockford, and worked on it for a year. Moving then to Rockford he engaged in teaming, and was so engaged until 1887, when he went on the Rice farm, now known as Harlem Park, and remained there for three years. Leaving the farm he moved to No. 1308 Ridge avenue, Rockford, which property he still owns, and occupied it until 1905, when he bought his present beautiful home at No. 966 N. Court street. In 1892 Mr. Rowley became street sprinkler for Rockford, and held that contract until November, 1914, operating two wagons at times.

On June 28, 1874, Mr. Rowley was married (first) to Susie G. Fordham, born at Sycamore, Ill., a daughter of William Fordham, and she died in May, 1899, they having had one daughter, namely: Florence Edith Rannie, who lives on Douglas street, Rockford. She has three children: Susie, Edwin and an infant. On November 10, 1903, Mr. Rowley was married (second) to Mrs. Sarah J. (Felts) Haynes, widow of M. M. Haynes, and a daughter of Elijah and Elsie (Ball) Felts, born at Raleigh, N. Y., February 6, 1841. Mr. Felts came to Rockford in 1835 and entered 300 acres of land in Durand Township.

Mr. Rowley is a Republican in politics. He belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 140, I. O. O. F.; Star East Lodge No. 166, A. F. & A. M.; Winnebago Chapter No. 24, R. A. M.; Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T.; Freeport Consistory; and Tabala Temple, Mystic Shrine. He went through the chairs in the Odd Fellows lodge,

is past master of the Masonic lodge, and past commander of the commandery, being a Mason in very high standing, and enthusiastic in his support of its work.

RUDOLPH, John. The manufacturing interests of Rockford are many and varied and the men engaged in them are bearing their part in advancing the prestige of the city. One of them who not only stands well with his employers but also with his associates, is John Rudolph, foreman of the side-gluing department of the Haddorff Piano Company. Mr. Rudolph was born in Lake County, Ill., February 20, 1862.

Until he was thirty-two years old John Rudolph lived in his native county and was there educated and became a farmer. In 1894 he moved to Cook County and embarked in a grocery business, conducting it for five years, when he sold and was then employed in a paper mill at Riverview, Ill. After two years there, he went with the Schaeffer Piano Company of the same place as side-gluer, and in 1902 moved to Rockford. Here he was employed by the Haddorff Company as side-gluer, and was found to be so efficient a man that he was placed in charge of the department, continuing its foreman ever since.

In 1890 Mr. Rudolph was married to Kate Baker, born in Lake County, Ill. Their children are as follows: Franklin J., Irvin G., Walter, Clara, Ellen, Lydia, Mary and Gladys. Fraternally Mr. Rudolph is a member of the Court of Honor. A man of skill, he has won his present position through his efficiency and deserves his prosperity.

RUH, George, president of the Rockford Pure Ice & Fuel Company, Nos. 1015 to 1023 School street, Rockford, is one of the men who have proved in their careers the value of industry and capably directed economy. He was born at Chicago, September 27, 1859, a son of Frank and Annie Mary Ruh. Natives of Germany, the father came here when sixteen years old, and the mother later. He located at Chicago and was in business as an expert cutter and tailor. In 1862 he enlisted in Company L, Fourth Missouri Volunteer Cavalry, at Chicago, for service during the Civil war, and was killed on the battle field when thirty-four years old, after serving for four years. The mother survived and died at Chicago when fifty years old.

George Ruh was educated at Chicago, and following the Chicago fire in 1871, began learning the lathing trade, having plenty of opportunity to do so as there was so much building going on at that time. He also learned to be a plumbing and gas fitter, but finally engaged as a delivery man for McGinnis & Boyle, ice dealers. After five years, during which time he gained a fair working knowledge of the business he started for himself in this line at Lake View, where he remained for several years. Here he became very prominent in politics and was alderman of his city, being then only twenty-eight

years old. When Lake View was made a part of the city of Chicago, Mr. Ruh was in favor of annexation and retired from politics about 1890. On May 27, 1906, he moved to Latham Park, Winnebago County, but later came into the city of Rockford. In 1912 he founded his present business under its existing caption, and has built it up to very large proportions.

The Rockford Pure Ice & Fuel Company, of which Mr. Ruh is president, in the few years it has been in existence, has grown to be one of Rockford's leading industries. An extensive ice and coal business is done and the company has one of the most modern and best equipped ice houses in the state.

In 1884 Mr. Ruh was married to Miss Metilda Kachler, a daughter of Fred Kachler, native of Germany, who came to the United States in an early day, locating at Chicago, where the father engaged in brick manufacturing for a number of years. When he was fifty years old, he moved to Winnebago County, Illinois, and bought a farm in Roscoe Township, on which he and wife still reside. In politics he is a Republican, and both he and wife are members of the First Lutheran Church. Mr. Ruh is a charter member of Douglas Lodge No. 125, K. P., of Chicago, and he is the oldest in membership in it.

In addition to the business above described, Mr. Ruh owns property at Chicago, his home at No. 1066 School street, Rockford, and six acres of land on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad at Rockford. As is easily seen from the above record, Mr. Ruh has had no outside assistance but has advanced through his own individual efforts, and his success is all the more meritorious because it has been gained by himself.

SABIN, J. Horace. The underlying spirit of the age is toward material improvement, and those who have thoroughly fitted themselves for constructive work along any line may find remunerative employment for their talents. One of the leading men in his profession at Rockford is J. Horace Sabin, a licensed structural engineer, who specializes in bridge construction. He was born at Stillwater, Minn., January 5, 1875, a son of J. Hoyt and Louise (Hard) Sabin, natives of Killingly, Conn., and Flat Rock, Mich., who were married at Aurora, Ill. The father was a manufacturer of farm machinery at Stillwater, Minn., and continued in that business until his death in 1876. The mother then removed to Aurora, Ill., and there later married W. H. Van Arsdale, who was in a smelting and refining business. In 1900 they went to Chicago, where they are now living retired.

J. Horace Sabin was the only child born to his parents. He was graduated from the Aurora High school in 1894 and then entered the Northwestern University and was graduated therefrom with the degree of B. S. in 1898. In order to study engineering, Mr. Sabin entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at Boston, and was graduated therefrom in 1902.

For the following six months he was in the employ of the Boston and Worcester Traction line, and then went to Virginia to work for the N. & W. Railroad as constructing engineer, continuing with this company for a year. He was then with the United States Steel corporation at various places, engaged in engineering construction and railroad location, and six years later located at Rockford, where he has since been doing contracting work, specializing on bridge construction, and is recognized as one of the most efficient men in his line in this part of the state.

In September, 1902, Mr. Sabin was married to Alice Hamlon, born at Paris, France, a daughter of Edward H. and Frances (Kale) Hamlon, natives of England. Mr. and Mrs. Sabin have one daughter, Alice Louise. Mr. and Mrs. Sabin belong to the Congregational Church. In politics Mr. Sabin is a Progressive. He is a deru of the Northwestern University, and belongs to the American Railroad Engineers' Association, the Illinois Society of Engineers, and the Western Railroad Club. He was elected county supervisor in November, 1914, on an independent ticket, and licensed a constructural engineer.

SADEWATER, Max C., generally recognized as one of the leading florists of Rockford, with a trade that extends all over Winnebago County, is a man whose love of his work is equal to his business judgment. He was born at Greifswald, Germany, June 14, 1872, a son of John and Marie (Fusting) Sadewater, who, in the winter of 1883, came to Rockford, where the father was afterward a laborer. He died in 1906, and the mother in 1910. Their children were as follows: Minnie, who is deceased; Max C.; Martha, who is Mrs. Steven O'Connor, of Rockford; and Paul, who lives at Rockford.

Max C. Sadewater was fifteen years old when he began working for the Rockford Watch Company, and by the time he was twenty-one years old he was made foreman of one of the departments, continuing to work for this concern for sixteen years. For the following three years he worked for the National Sewing Machine Company, adjusting sewing machines at Belvidere, Ill., and then for two years again worked for the Rockford Watch Company. In 1908 he bought a tract of land on Charles street, Rockford, on which he erected one of the largest greenhouses in the county, now having about 10,000 feet of glass. He deals in all kinds of cut flowers and potted plants and specializes on funeral work.

On July 3, 1893, Mr. Sadewater was married to Luella Garrett, born at Rockford, a daughter of William and Ann (Hutchins) Garrett, born on the Isle of Man, and both now deceased, the mother passing away in 1896, and the father in 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Sadewater have one daughter, Ila Verona, who was born March 19, 1896. She represented Hon-no-ne-gah, an Indian maiden, in the Rock River historical pageant, June 15 and 16, 1915, at Rockford. She married Steven Mack, a descendant of the first white

settler of Rockford. Mrs. Sadewater attends the Centennial Methodist Church, of Rockford.

In politics Mr. Sadewater is independent. Fraternally he belongs to the Court of Honor, the Modern Brotherhood of America, the Yeomen of America, the Knights of Pythias, the Owls and the Moose. A man of more than average ability, Mr. Sadewater has made his own way in life, and has every reason to be proud of the success he has attained.

SALEN, Swan August. Experience along agricultural lines fits a man to intelligently conduct his farm and so work as to make a profit. One of the progressive men of Winnebago County who are succeeding in the work of cultivating the soil is Swan August Salen of Rockford Township. He was born in Sweden, April 19, 1847, a son of John Salen. When he was twenty-one years old, he came to the United States, and located at Rockford, where he built a nice home at the corner of Sixth street and Fifth avenue. He worked in a foundry and then at the furniture factory here for nineteen years. He then bought Cumming's farm of sixty-two acres on which he lived for thirteen years, when he went to Harrison Township for three years, returning later to the old home for four years, then sold it and moved to Cherry Valley Township, where he lived for three years, moving then to the present farm which he had bought in 1910. In 1911 he moved on the old Holland farm of eighty acres in Rockford Township, and on it now carries on general farming, and milks twelve cows. Mr. Salen was a stockholder of the Central Furniture Company, and was one of the first to go to work for it.

On November 1, 1883, Mr. Salen was married at Rockford to Mathilda Hartwigson, a native of Sweden, born August 13, 1853, and arrived in Rockford June 2, 1873, and they have three children, namely: Henry, born May 11, 1885, Edith, born July 4, 1887, and Hjalmar, born June 11, 1890. Henry and Edith are at home. Hjalmar is a mechanic with Barber-Coleman and Company, in Rockford. In addition to these three living children, Mr. and Mrs. Salen had two others who are deceased, Sophia, born August 7, 1884, died August 9, 1884, and Gotfried, a twin to Henry, was born May 11, 1885 and died August 30, 1885. Mr. Salen belongs to the First Lutheran Church of Rockford, and was a trustee of it for about nine years. He was acting in this capacity when the new church edifice was erected. This organization has the largest congregation of any of its kind in the country. Mr. Salen is proud of the fact that for twenty years he never missed an attendance upon Sunday school of which he was overseer, and he is just as faithful in his performance of other duties as he was in this connection.

SANBORN, Clarence A., manufacturer, has made his name a well known one in Winnebago County. He is now living in comfortable re-

tirement at No. 610 N. Second street, Rockford. He was born at Barre, Vt., July 15, 1848, a son of Rufus S. and Emily F. (Howard) Sanborn of New Hampshire, who moved to Providence, Mass. Later they went to Vermont, and in 1856 came to Illinois, locating at Buda, in Bureau County. The father was a Unitarian minister, and also a dentist, and followed the latter profession during the week days and preached on Sundays. He was also interested in farming. In 1858 he went to Sycamore, Ill., where he continued his ministerial and other labors until 1863, in which year he went to Ripon, Wis. Later he was interested in a manufacturing project which took him to Boston, Mass., but his last days were spent at Rockford, to which city he moved in 1867, and here died in 1878. The mother died in 1902.

Clarence A. Sanborn was educated in the common and high schools of Sycamore, Ill. In 1868 he bought a drug store on the corner of W. State and Church streets. Later on he fitted up a drug store near the present site of Armstrong's clothing store, but in 1878 sold it to Charles Sabin and went to Chicago, and was interested in the agency for the celluloid collars, of which his brother was the patentee. After two years at Chicago, although he retained his residence at Rockford, Mr. Sanborn returned to this city and became connected with the Price Glove Manufacturing Company, producers of gloves and mittens, becoming its vice president. In 1905, however, he severed his connections with this company and has since lived retired. For years he has been more or less interested in real estate, and has bought and sold for speculative purposes. At present he owns several residences and other valuable city property.

On May 14, 1873, Mr. Sanborn was married to Mary A. Wallis, born at Patterson, N. J., a daughter of W. T. and Henrietta (Remsen) Wallis, of New York and New Jersey, respectively, who were early settlers of Rockford, coming here about 1857. He became cashier and a stockholder of the Third National Bank of the city when it was organized, so continuing until his death October 16, 1885. The mother died November 11, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Sanborn have had the following children: Wallace R., who is vice president and general manager of the Lehigh Stone Co. of Kankakee, Ill., was born May 20, 1874, and married Ada Carmony, issue: Deborah B., Daniel C., Clarence A. and Anna A.; William, who died in 1911, aged thirty-one years, was born September 7, 1880; and two sons who died in childhood. Howard C., born December 7, 1875, died December 8, 1889; and Frank, born November 12, 1877, died March 8, 1881. In politics Mr. Sanborn is a Republican. He belongs to the Chapter, Commandery and Shrine at Rockford, being a Mason in high standing and one of the organizers of the fraternity in this locality.

SANDSTEDT, Carl, a prosperous grocer and a leading business man of Rockford, stands very

high in public esteem and is recognized as a most excellent citizen. He was born in Smoland, Sweden, August 28, 1866, a son of P. A. and Hilda (Wetterhall) Sandstedt, natives of Smoland, Sweden. The paternal ancestors were farmers and their farm has been in the family since 1543. The maternal grandfather was engaged in paper manufacturing, but later became a farmer. P. A. Sanstedt never left his native land, dying in 1906, aged eighty-two years. His widow survives and still lives in Sweden. They were members of the Lutheran Church.

Carl Sanstedt was educated in Sweden, and gave his country nine years of military service, being in the cavalry branch. He came to the United States, and located at Rockford, here entering the employ of the Rockford Furniture Company, where he remained for four years and then went with the Free Sewing Machine Company. After seven years with the latter concern he embarked in a grocery business for himself, on Charles street, but a year later moved to his present location at No. 104 Seventh street, where he has built up a very fine business.

In 1892 Mr. Sandstedt was married to Miss Anna Johnson, a daughter of John and Louise Johnson of Smoland, Sweden, where her parents are engaged in farming. Politically Mr. Sandstedt is a Republican. His religious connections are with Zion Lutheran Church of Rockford, and he is highly respected in this organization as he is elsewhere for he is a man of very desirable traits of character and high principles.

SANFORD, Goodyear A.; page 648.

SARVER, Ray Vaughn, one of the substantial farmers of Winnebago County, owns and operates eighty acres of land located five miles north of the village of Pecatonica. He was born in Winnebago County, January 20, 1887. The Sarver family comes of very old English stock that settled in Ogle County, Ill., in 1837. From there the father of Ray Vaughn Sarver came to Winnebago County.

Ray Vaughn Sarver was educated in the public schools of his native county, and grew up to an agricultural life. In 1907 he was married to Miss Nellie Wright, born November 22, 1882, a daughter of William S. B. and Sophronia (Hitchcock) Wright. Her grandmother was Martha (Hudson) Wright, a native of Canada, who died at the age of ninety-three and the grandfather at the age of ninety-one years. William S. B. Wright died in March, 1911, and Mrs. Wright in May of the same year. Their children were as follows: Mrs. Charles Stephens, who was born August 17, 1877; John, who was born April 17, 1880; Nellie, Mrs. Sarver, who was born November 28, 1882; Mrs. Doris Knadle, who was born in 1885; and Mabel, who was born in 1889, is a teacher in the Pecatonica public schools. The Wright family is of New York State origin and the parents of Mrs. Sarver came to that part of Winnebago County where they lived until death claimed them, in 1854. Mr. and Mrs.

Sarver have one son, Rayme, the first grandchild in the Sarver family, who was born November 4, 1910.

SAUBER, Henry E., who, after some experience along different lines, is now devoting his energies towards conducting his father's homestead which he has inherited, is one of the representative men of Rockford. He was born at Kenosha, Wis., October 1, 1861, a son of John Peter and Anna Maria (Williams) Day Sauber.

One in a family of ten children, Henry E. Sauber was educated in the district schools, and reared to agricultural activities. When he was seven years old his parents moved to Rockford and he lived there ten years, in 1878 going back to the farm. In 1890 he returned to Rockford and for some time worked at the machinist trade, also was in the grocery business a short time, but in 1894 went to his father's farm in Ogle County, and here spent ten profitable years. In 1904, he returned to the homestead which has since continued to be his home. Here he has a valuable property and conducts his seventy acres of land in a scientific manner.

On March 11, 1886, Mr. Sauber was married to Minnie Amelia Johns, a daughter of Richard and Jane Ann (Hocken) Johns. Mr. and Mrs. Sauber are the parents of two children, Ralph Henry, born May 5, 1887, living at home; and Marion Frances, born January 16, 1889, who married Frank M. Shaw. Mr. Sauber is a member of the Grange which he has served as secretary. He is an excellent example of the live, progressive farmer of today, who is able to take advantage of existing conditions and turn them to profit. While he has not entered public life, he does his duty as a good citizen, supporting candidates that meet his approval, voting independently. He is well informed and takes an intelligent interest in public affairs.

SAUBER, John Peter. The history of no community is complete without a record of the men who have borne their part in its development. Through the work of the pioneers and their successors is a locality opened up and developed, and its subsequent history largely depends upon the character of those who lay the foundations. Fortunately for Rockford the majority of its first citizens were men of unusual character who displayed excellent judgment and acted according to a farseeing policy from which the present day generation is benefitting.

One of these men was the late John Peter Sauber of Rockford. He was born in Germany, October 1, 1836. When he was nine years old he was brought to the United States by his father, and the family located in Wisconsin, where they passed through the pioneer experiences of that time and place. In 1868 Mr. Sauber came to Winnebago County, and located on Park avenue, Rockford, although he had invested in an Ogle County farm. In the fall of 1878 he bought forty acres of land in Rockford Township, which he subsequently increased to sixty acres, and improved it to a considerable

extent. This property has, since his death, March 5, 1900, been divided among his children. His wife lived until February 17, 1912, when she was seventy-six years old. She bore the maiden name of Anna Maria Williams, and was born in Kenosha, Wis., a daughter of John Williams. Mrs. Sauber was a widow when she married Mr. Sauber, her first husband having been David Day, by whom she had two children, Lorinda and William. Mr. and Mrs. Sauber had ten children, as follows: one who died in infancy; Theodore, who is deceased; Henry E., whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; George Alfred, who is a resident of the west end of Rockford; Ada May, who is Mrs. Frank Johns; Ellsworth and Albert, both of whom are deceased, were twins; Herbert Charles, who is a resident of Rockford Township; Harvey Good-year, who is a resident of Rockford; and Fred L., who is deceased. At one time Mr. Sauber was a candidate for mayor of Rockford. During the Civil war he gave his country a one year's service. He was a man of unblemished character, and sought to do what he considered was his full duty, and while he prospered, he also built up a reputation for fair dealing that has lived after him.

SAWYER, Willis (Kit) E. Political honors seldom come to a man unless he has already proven his ability to discharge the duties of the office conferred upon him by popular vote of the people, especially when such an office is so important a one as that of sheriff of a county the size of Winnebago. One of the men whose name is connected with this office and who otherwise was also a man of substance and prominence, was the late Willis E. Sawyer. He was born at Geneva Lake, Wis., February 9, 1846, a son of H. J. and Lorilla (Baker) Sawyer. H. J. Sawyer was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where he married, his wife being a native of the same county. After marriage they moved to Wisconsin and took up government land, improving this property while residing upon it. Later Mr. Sawyer engaged in a hotel business at Darien, Wis., but after a few years, went to Rockton, Ill., where he continued in a hotel business. Not only was he elected sheriff of Winnebago County for a two year term, but he served as a justice of the peace and constable. Retiring, he located at Rockford, where he bought a house and lot, and there died in 1903. His first wife died twelve years after marriage, and he later married Miss Mina Lippet, a daughter of John Lippet, who died at Rockford, Ill. The second Mrs. Sawyer died about 1892. In politics, H. J. Sawyer was a Republican.

Willis E. Sawyer passed his boyhood in Wisconsin and Illinois, attending school in both places. In 1861 he enlisted for service during the Civil war, and drove a commissary wagon as he was then deemed too young to enter the ranks. Later, however, he was enrolled as a private in Company C. Sixty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and at the close of the war

received his honorable discharge. Returning home, he traveled for the Hamlin Wizard Oil Company for three years. He then embarked in a livery business at Rockford, Ill., but after a short period went to Santa Barbara, Cal., where he was engaged in the same line for five years. Selling at the close of that time, he returned to Rockford, and once more was in a livery business. In the meanwhile he was elected sheriff of the county, and made a very efficient official. In 1907, he sold his livery business and went to Dakota and bought 480 acres of land, and was also justice of the peace there, but after a few years, came back to Rockford. Not long after his return, he was stricken with an illness which proved fatal, and he died June 5, 1912, aged sixty-six years. He was a Mason and a Modern Woodman, and a member of the G. A. R. of Rockford. He was a strong Republican.

In 1871 Mr. Sawyer was married to Mary Blewfield, a daughter of Jacob and Rachel (Springsted) Blewfield. Mr. and Mrs. Blewfield are both now deceased and are buried at Rockford. Natives of New York state, they came to Illinois in 1856, buying 160 acres in Burritt Township, Winnebago County, on which they resided for years, but subsequently retired to Rockford. Mrs. Blewfield died in 1891, aged seventy-five years, while Mr. Blewfield passed away in 1907, aged eighty-eight years. In politics he was a Democrat.

SAX, Ira D. The men who are selected to oversee the work of their associates in any one of the large manufacturing establishments must of necessity be experts and fitted to exercise a judicious control and not to exceed their authority. Perhaps no one man is better placed in the entire large establishment of the Emerson-Brantingham Company than is Ira D. Sax, foreman of the wood department, who is one of the substantial men of Rockford, residing at No. 1301 Elm street. He was born in Luzerne County, Pa., June 3, 1854, a son of Amos and Sarah (Hopkins) Sax, natives of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, farming people.

Ira D. Sax was educated in the country schools of Pennsylvania, and a Poughkeepsie business college. For over thirty years thereafter, he was engaged in merchandising in his native state. About 1905 he turned his attention westward, and became associated with the Emerson-Brantingham Company at Rockford, Ill., as a clerk. By 1908 he was recognized as a man of unusual ability, and was made foreman of the wood department of that concern, which position he still holds.

In June, 1876, Mr. Sax was married to Ella Litts, who was born in Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Sax have one daughter, Helen E., who was born in February, 1895, who is at home. Mr. Sax is a Mason. The family attends the Presbyterian church. Hardworking, energetic and a man of force of character, Mr. Sax is a very desirable addition to the force of any

establishment and a reliable man in any walk of life.

SCHLENK, Clyde J., manager of the Schmauss West State Street Meat Market, is one of the most alert young business men of the West Side, and a man who thoroughly understands his business. He was born at Freeport, Ill., March 21, 1887, a son of George L. and Mary (Barrett) Schlenk. The father was born at Monroe Centre, Ill., while the mother was born in Limerick, Ireland. They were married at Rockford in 1883.

Educated at Rockford, Ill., George L. Schlenk there entered the employ of Mr. Neumeister, a carriage maker, but in 1882 went to Freeport and for six years was employed by the Henney Buggy Company. In 1888 he returned to Rockford, where he was engaged in a livery business in partnership with Thomas Lonergan until 1893, when he dissolved the connection, Mr. Lonergan still continuing on N. Main street. Their original location was at the old Reynolds stand. The father was then appointed mail carrier under Postmaster Thomas Lavler, and in 1911 was made a postoffice clerk, and still holds that position with the government.

Clyde Schlenk passed his boyhood at Rockford, where he attended St. James parochial school. Upon the completion of his educational training he began working for Schmauss Bros., at their E. State street store, beginning with them in 1903, and so efficient and faithful did he prove to be that in 1908 he was given charge of their W. State street market, and is still conducting it for them, his record being a somewhat unusual one, as he has been in the employ of the same firm during all of his business career, a period extending over twelve years, a very creditable record.

On October 24, 1911, Mr. Schlenk was married to Miss Mary Hartnett, a daughter of Edward Hartnett of Rockford.

SCHMALZ, George. For a number of years the late George Schmalz was a well known figure in the business life of East Rockford, he having developed a large trade as a meat merchant, and established himself as one of the reputable men of his community. He was born near the river Rhine, Dalheim, Ippenheim, Rhinessen, Germany, in 1840, a son of George and Mactalien (Kessel) Schmalz. George Schmalz was born in the same place as his son, while the mother was born in Mulheim, Germany, and the parents were married at the latter place. In 1869 they left Germany for the United States, settling first in New York. Following his death, the mother came to Rockford, Ill., and here she died in 1894. The father was a member of the German Lutheran Church, and a most excellent man.

George Schmalz spent his boyhood in Germany, where he was educated, and he gave his country the customary military service of three years. He learned the butchering business and in 1866 came to the United States, and for seven

years was engaged in a meat business in New York City. In 1873 he came to Rockford, Ill., where he was engaged in a butchering business until 1880. In that year Mr. Schmalz embarked in a saloon business and continued it for ten years, when his health began to fail and he retired, dying in 1893, aged fifty-two years. His widow survives him and is making her home in an apartment building owned by her at No. 730 Elm street, Rockford.

In 1865 George Schmalz was married to Miss Katheranna Winter, a daughter of Carl and Eva (Krahler) Winter, born at Dexheim, Germany, where they lived and died, the father being engaged in a meat business. Mr. and Mrs. Schmalz became the parents of six children, as follows: Catherine, who is Mrs. Martin Myers, of Wisconsin; George, who died at Rockford when thirty-three years old; William, who died in infancy; Anna, who married Thomas Malana, died, aged thirty-nine years; and Carl and Richard, both of whom died in 1876. Mrs. Schmalz's great-grandfather was a soldier and served during the Napoleonic wars of 1809-10 and 1811. Her niece's husband, Captain Krouse, is now serving in the German army. Mr. Schmalz was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and wife attended the Lutheran Church.

SCHMAUSS, John. The standing of a community among similar civic organizations does not depend upon its few rich men or statesmen, but upon the rank and file of citizens whose business interests taken as a whole amount to an important factor in the commercialism of the state. The late John Schmauss belonged to the class that makes for good citizenship and reliable effort no matter along what line work is done. He was a meat market proprietor of Rockford from 1867 to 1872. He was born at Schnaittach, Bavaria, Germany, August 14, 1830, and his parents were natives of Germany who spent their lives in their own land, the father being a butcher. The mother's death occurred in 1882.

John Schmauss left Germany in 1855, where he had been reared and educated, and upon his arrival in the United States, located at Rockford. For a number of years he was associated with Charles Kettlewell in a meat business. In 1862 he went to Pike's Peak, Colo., in search of gold, but returned and associated himself in a meat business with Charles Schorn, which connection continued for five years. In 1871 Mr. Schmauss bought 468 acres in Cherry Valley Township, which property was then known as the Twogood farm, and while looking after his agricultural interests, he continued to operate his meat business. He was a heavy cattle feeder and buyer, and his success in the livestock business was well merited.

In 1866 Mr. Schmauss was married to Miss Anna Froehlich, who was born in Bavaria, Germany, of which country her parents were also natives. They never left their native land, Mrs. Schmauss having been brought to Rock-

ford, Ill., when fourteen years old by friends of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Schmauss had one daughter, Kate, who still resides in the family home which is one of the finest on East State street. Here the father died February 1, 1904, and the mother, November 14, 1914. Mr. Schmauss was a Democrat. The First Congregational Church of Rockford held his membership. For many years he was interested in the R. R. G. Verein Society, of which he was a charter member. A man of sterling integrity, he was esteemed by all and is remembered by many, for he possessed many excellent traits of character, and always lived up to his responsibilities.

SCHMELING, Emil W., president of the Schmeling & Broitzman general contracting firm at Nos. 117 and 119 Irving avenue, Rockford, is one of the leaders in his line in Winnebago County, and a man who is universally respected. He was born in Germany, July 21, 1869, a son of William F. Schmeling. The family came to the United States in 1885, and located at Winneconne, Wis.

Emil W. Schmeling attended school in Germany and had one term in the district school at Winneconne, Wis., and he also went to night school during one winter at Rockford, in the Y. M. C. A. building. In 1888 he went to Argyle, Ill., and worked as a carpenter apprentice, remaining there until 1891, when he came to Rockford and worked at his trade as a journeyman. In 1903 he began contracting and building, and in the fall of 1906 erected some small shops and installed a few machines so as to do his own mill work. His business developed until in 1908 he erected his present brick shop, 44x46 feet, two stories and basement in height. This shop is equipped to do any kind of ordinary mill or fixture work for contracting and building. The firm does general contracting and building of all kinds, including brick, concrete and frame. It takes contracts for work anywhere in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin. In the fall of 1907 Mr. Schmeling started a lumber and builders supply house and yard between Elm and State streets, which he operates in conjunction with his other lines of business. Here is carried a full line of building material. Among other contracts carried out by this firm are the addition to Rockford College, and the plant of the Clark Manufacturing Company. In 1909, August B. Broitzman bought an interest in the business and is superintendent of the outside work. The firm operates an electric floor surfacer, the only one in northern Illinois, outside Chicago, and contracts are taken for its use throughout northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin.

In 1896 Mr. Schmeling was married to Augusta Anders, born at Pecatonica, Ill., in 1870, a daughter of Fred and Mary Anders, natives of Germany. She died in 1905, leaving four children, namely: William F., Marie, Walter and Elmer. In the fall of 1907 Mr. Schmeling married (second) Amelia Bonsack, born in Saxony,

Germany, in 1875, a daughter of Fred Bonsack, who came to the United States with her parents in 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Schmeling have three children, namely: Albert, Rosabelle E. and Robert. Mr. Schmeling is a member of the German Lutheran Church. Steadfast, industrious and thrifty, Mr. Schmeling has advanced step by step until he is now numbered among the leading builders and contractors of this part of the state, and has honestly won the prosperity that is his.

SCHOONMAKER, David. Among the men who have retired from life's strenuous activities after long and successful operations in agriculture, is found David Schoonmaker, of 423 South Church street, Rockford. Mr. Schoonmaker was born on his father's farm in Albany County, N. Y., October 31, 1849, and is a son of Cherick and Charity (Daring) Schoonmaker.

Charles Schoonmaker was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., in 1824, on the farm of his father, and was educated and married in that locality. For five years he was engaged in the breeding of horses in Albany County, and in 1855 came west, locating in Owen Township, Winnebago County, Ill., where he purchased a farm of eighty acres. He then went back to the state of New York, but March 7, 1857, returned to Owen Township, Winnebago County, where he carried on farming for a number of years. Then selling out to a Mr. Blake, Mr. Schoonmaker bought the old Anson Owen farm, on Rock River, in Owen Township, a tract of 208 acres, on which he resided for a number of years. He was moved to sell this place because of the imminent danger to his buildings, from flying sparks from the trains of the Chicago, Milwaukee & Saint Paul Railroad. He disposed of it to George W. Black, buying then the Goodyear farm and subsequently portions of the old Johnson and Doolittle farms. He later left his son, David D., in charge of the Goodyear and Doolittle farms, and another son later rented the Johnson farm and a part of the Doolittle property. The father then moved to Latham Park, in Owen Township, where he operated a ferry boat for three years, but when the boat was caught in the ice in the river in the spring breakup, and smashed, Mr. Schoonmaker retired, and so lived until his death, February 14, 1898, at the age of seventy-three years. He was a Republican and a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge at Rockford. Mrs. Schoonmaker was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., where her father was a sawmill proprietor and a shipper of lumber to Albany, in addition to carrying on extensive agricultural operations. Later he moved with his family to Latham Park, Ill., where he died. Mrs. Schoonmaker then moving to the home of her son where she passed away afterward.

The boyhood of David Schoonmaker was passed in Owen Township, where the public schools furnished him with his education. As a youth he took up farming on his father's property, and later purchased a threshing out-

fit and operated it for eight years. In 1882 he was married to Miss Ida Wright, daughter of Solomon and Eliza (Daring) Wright. She died May 27, 1911. After his marriage, Mr. Schoonmaker resided on the old home place for a number of years, moving then to Latham Park, where he was postmaster for six years and a justice of the peace four years. From Latham Park he moved to Rockford and bought a home on Crosby street, but subsequently sold that property and removed to his present home, No. 423 South Church street.

Mr. Schoonmaker belongs to a fraternal organization at Rockford, Ill., and to Farmer's Camp, of the Modern Woodmen of America, at Owen. His political tendencies make him a Republican, and he has held all of the township offices.

SCHROM, Arthur, auditor and office manager for the Consumers Company of Rockford, is one of the most capable and efficient men in his line in the city, and the services he renders his company are of such a nature as to make him very valuable to his concern. He was born at Jefferson, Wis., January 24, 1890, a son of Wenzel and Teckla (Benesch) Schrom. Both parents were born in Germany, and the father came to the United States early in life and located at Jefferson, Wis., where he bought a farm and operated it for a time and then sold and moved to Rockford, coming here in 1891. For a time he was engaged in farming, and then did teaming under contract. His death occurred in 1913, when he was sixty-one years old. The mother died in 1900, aged forty-seven years. They were members of the Germania Club, and in politics the father was a Democrat.

Arthur Schrom was educated in the schools of Rockford and at Brown's Business College, of this city. In 1911 Mr. Schrom became connected with the Consumers Company of Rockford as auditor and office manager, and still retains these important positions. He is a live, progressive young man of the highest standing, and has a bright future before him.

SCHWARTZ, Walter B., who is residing on section 19, Winnebago Township, is profitably engaged in farming and stockraising, and is one of the prosperous men of the county. He was born in this same township, July 30, 1887, a son of Henry F. and Elizabeth (Anders) Schwartz, natives of Germany who came to the United States about 1871 or 1872, and became farmers of Winnebago Township.

Walter B. Schwartz was educated in the schools of his native township, and early began farming. On February 19, 1913, he was united in marriage with Miss Marie Dierks, born June 17, 1888, a daughter of George and Anna (Helfers) Dierks, natives of Germany. The mother is deceased and the father lives with his daughter in Winnebago County. He has always been a farmer and is now retired. Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz have one child Ruth Elizabeth, who was born December 10, 1913. Both Mr. and Mrs.

Schwartz are members of the German Lutheran Church. In politics Mr. Schwartz is a Republican. His methods of farming are modern and through experimentation he has learned the best breed of stock for his purposes. Although he has held no offices, Mr. Schwartz has a public spirited interest in local matters, and stands well in his community.

SCOTT, Luther, owner of 140 acres of fine farm land in Guilford Township, is recognized as one of the prosperous agriculturalists of Winnebago County. He is a native son of this township and was born June 29, 1855. His parents were Dauiel and Nancy J. (Hayes) Scott, he born in New York and she in Canada. The paternal grandparents, Johnson and Anna Scott, were born in New York, and the maternal grandfather, Samuel Hayes, was a native of Canada. The father's people came by wagon to Guilford Township in 1837, while the mother's people came the same way to the same township in 1838.

The parents of Luther Scott after marriage, settled in the vicinity of Rockford on land then covered with timber that the father entered from the government. He began improving it and to earn some money, also worked on the first dam across Rock River. During his life he was mainly a farmer and secured 212 acres of fine land. Always a man of principle, he became active and useful in local affairs. His death occurred October 4, 1911, he having been born January 26, 1830. The mother, born October 19, 1828, died March 19, 1907. Their children were as follows: Reuben, who died at the age of eighteen years; Luther; Frank, who died in infancy; and Hannah L., who is Mrs. Bert Rowley, lives on a part of the homestead.

Luther Scott not only attended the district schools of Guilford Township, but also business college at Rockford and resided with his parents until his marriage in 1876 when he moved to the north part of the homestead. In 1898 he and his family took possession of the old house and his father built a smaller house for himself and wife in the same yard. Mr. Scott owns 140 acres of excellent land and carries on general farming.

On September 21, 1876, he was married to Ella Hill, born at Rockford, a daughter of Emanuel and Elizabeth (Moon) Hill, natives of England, who had six children, three of whom were born in England, and the other three in America, they being as follows: Rosa, Emanuel, John, Sarah, Harry, and Mrs. Scott. Mr. Hill was a stonecutter and he died at Rockford July 19, 1879, having been born in 1820. Mrs. Hill died in 1886, having been born in 1822. Mr. and Mrs. Scott have had the following children: Ralph, who lives at Rockford, married Mildred Teflow, and they have two children, Robert and Allen L.; Maud, who is Mrs. Leroy Cleveland of New Milford Township, has two children, Mariam and Jeannette; and Blanche, Hazel, and Harry, who are at home. Mrs. Scott attended the public schools of Rockford. In politics Mr.

Scott is a Republican. He belongs to Rockford Camp No. 20, M. W. A., and stands high in public esteem.

SEGUR, John. Faithful service and honorable action bring their own reward, and John Segur, looking back over his life, has every reason to be proud of what he has accomplished. He was born at Granby, Conn., July 6, 1829, a son of Orlean and Amret (Dean) Segur, of Connecticut. The paternal grandparents were Augustus and Elizabeth (Tuller) Segur, the grandmother being a daughter of Eli Tuller, a soldier of the Revolutionary war. Orlean Segur made his home in Connecticut, and died at Simsbury, that state, in October, 1872, after a life spent in agricultural pursuits. His wife died in November, 1882. Of the six children born of his parents, John Segur is the only survivor.

Attending school at Granby, then a short time at North Canton, Conn., then went to New Hartford, Conn., John Segur received a liberal education. He then learned the machinist trade. In 1855 he left his own state for Beloit, Wis., and in 1857 came to Rockford where he was employed by Emerson & Talcott for several years. He then became foreman of their machine shops, in all continuing with this concern thirty-five years. Owing to an accident which deprived him of the use of his right eye, Mr. Segur was compelled to retire. He had wisely invested his savings in valuable Rockford property and is a man of means.

On July 3, 1851, Mr. Segur was married to Jane Trowbridge, born at Barkhamstead, Conn., a daughter of James Trowbridge, a carpenter in early life, but later on general agent for D. M. Smith & Son, large cotton manufacturers of Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Segur became the parents of two children, namely: James, who was born at New Hartford, Conn., married Nellie O'Connor and lives at Dubuque, Iowa; and Sarah A., who is the widow of Judge J. C. Garver. Mrs. Segur died September 7, 1900, and for the following two years a sister kept house for Mr. Segur, and then he went to live with his widowed daughter, Mrs. Garver, on S. Main street.

On January 12, 1851, Mr. Segur joined the Masonic fraternity in Connecticut, and in 1866 he became a member of Rockford Chapter, R. A. M. During the many years he has lived at Rockford, Mr. Segur has seen numerous changes, and is proud of the progress of the city and its present prestige as a manufacturing center.

SHEAHAN, Philip, who has been living retired for a half a century, and residing in the village of Winnebago, was born in Shanagolden, County Limerick, Ireland, March 13, 1839, a son of James and Mary (Sheahan) Sheahan, who emigrated to Canada in 1842, and in 1855 came to Illinois, locating in Du Page County where the father lived retired until his death at the age of ninety years. The mother died at the age of sixty-three years. They were

the parents of twelve children, namely: Mary, Jeremiah, Morris, John, Daniel, Patrick, James, Mary (II), wife of William Morely, Honora, Johanna and Catherine, and Philip, who is the only survivor.

Philip Sheahan was reared in Canada from the time he was three years old, and received but limited schooling. He accompanied his parents to Du Page County, Ill., in 1855, and ten years later moved to Winnebago County, where he has since resided. His first employment was with the Galena and Chicago Railroad as a laborer, and he was later with the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and the Illinois Central railroads, holding the position of section foreman for many years, or until he retired in 1889. Watching his opportunities he invested his money in farm lands and now owns a fine farm of 117½ acres in Du Page County, another one of 167 acres in Winnebago Township, this county, both of which he rents, and which he values at \$150 per acre, and the homestead in the village of Winnebago, comprising three acres, or six valuable lots.

On December 31, 1862, Mr. Sheahan was married to Anastasia, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Burns) Cavanaugh, both natives of Ireland, and pioneers of Du Page County, Ill. To this marriage seven children were born, as follows: James and John P., who are deceased; John P. (II), a telegrapher, who was accidentally killed on the Northwestern Railroad at Milwaukee, Wis., July 27, 1913; Daniel, who is deceased; Mary, who is the wife of William H. Hart; Margaret, who is the wife of Timothy P. Burns; and Elizabeth, who has been a teacher for twenty-six years, fourteen years of which she was employed in the Peca-tonica High School. By his industry and frugality Mr. Sheahan has accumulated a competency, and he is one of the highly respected citizens of Winnebago. He and his family are members of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church of Rockford. In politics he is a Democrat.

SHEARER, Atley, cashier of the Rockford and Interurban Railroad Company, is one of the best examples of a self-reliant, reliable and successful young business man Rockford affords. He was born at Marengo, Ill., December 18, 1894, a son of Charles and Elizabeth (Shelington) Shearer. Charles Shearer was born at Marengo, Ill., while the mother was born at Rockford, Ill. The paternal grandfather, also Charles Shearer, was born in New York State, but came to Illinois at an early day and secured government land in the vicinity of Marengo, where he died. His son, Charles Shearer, was a farmer all his active life, operating the homestead, but later in life retired, coming to Rockford in 1912, buying a residence at No. 330 Paris avenue, where he and wife now live.

Atley Shearer attended school at Marengo and Rockford, and after leaving school, took a position with the Kirk Action Company, leaving soon thereafter to engage with the Rock-

ford and Interurban Railroad Company, having held his present responsible position since November 15, 1913.

In 1913 Mr. Shearer was married to Miss Elizabeth Diggins, a daughter of John Diggins, of Byron, Ill., a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Shearer are leaders in their social set and are very popular, while in business life the young man's ability is unquestioned and he has a fine future before him.

SHELDON, Benjamin R., page 717.

SHELDON, Carlton W., page 706.

SHERER, George W., whose association with the journalistic field has been of such a nature as to make him an important factor in the history of this line of human endeavor in northern Illinois, was born at Rockford, February 14, 1848, a son of George and Elizabeth (Whisson) Sherer, natives of Pennsylvania and Wheeling, W. Va. They were married in the East and came to Rockford at an early day. The father was a carriage and wagon manufacturer, and during his later days he served as commissioner of highways of East Rockford. His death occurred in 1877, and the mother died in 1909, aged eighty-nine years. Their children were as follows: Charles, Elizabeth, Edward, and Sarah, who are all deceased; Adelbert, who is of Rockford; Alta, who is Mrs. George B. Best of Rockford; and George W. The maternal grandfather, Joseph Whisson, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and Mrs. Sherer was a Daughter of the Revolution.

George W. Sherer attended the public schools of Rockford and when fifteen years old began learning the printing trade on the Free Press and Journal. In the early eighties he started a job printing business with A. F. Judd and they continued together for seventeen years, when Mr. Sherer was appointed first superintendent of the printing office at the Pontiac Reformatory to do all the printing for the state institutions, and although he no longer holds that office, the position is continued, his successors operating largely along the lines he laid down.

On January 25, 1865, Mr. Sherer enlisted in Company D, Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Cavalry for service during the Civil war, and was at Memphis and LaGrange and in Mississippi doing guard duty and for patriotic purposes. Robert G. Ingersoll was the first colonel of the regiment. Mr. Sherer was discharged at Memphis, September 30, 1865, and returned to Rockford where he resumed his business occupation. While associated with the printing business, he established the Rockford Furniture Journal and conducted it for eighteen months, and then sold to a company which now is the Furniture Journal Company of Chicago. While in the office, Mr. Sherer invented and manufactured a type adjuster or copper which is now universally used for spacing type.

On February 14, 1877, Mr. Sherer was married

to Anna B. Spalding, born at Byron, Ill., a daughter of Asa G. and Susan B. (Welding) Spalding, natives of Pennsylvania, where he was born August 10, 1809, and she January 27, 1813. They married in Pennsylvania, and in 1835 came to Byron, Ogle County, Ill. Mr. Spalding was the first postmaster and justice of the peace at Byron. In 1855 he came to Rockford, and died here April 21, 1893. His wife died in this city November 16, 1891. The Spalding family is of English descent, and Mrs. Sherer's paternal grandfather, Harry Spalding, was a colonel in the Revolutionary war, and the family was otherwise represented in that great struggle. Mr. and Mrs. Spalding had the following children: Lemira, who was born in 1835, died in 1839; Frances I, who is deceased; Sarah, who is Mrs. W. A. Daniells, of Rockford; Edward B., who is of Sioux City, Iowa; James D., who died April 4, 1913; and Mrs. Sherer, who is the youngest. There were no children born to Mr. and Mrs. Sherer. Mrs. Sherer is a member of the First Baptist Church of Rockford and is active in its many good works. Mr. Sherer is a Republican, and served as supervisor for four years of Rockford, and was on its board of education for six years, and in the city health department for three years. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. holds his membership.

SHERMAN FAMILY, The. The name Sherman originated in the North of Germany, transferred to the vicinity of London by the Anglo-Saxon emigration, thence to Dedham, Essex County, England, and thence again to New England, where it has become numerous and widely diffused. In the year 1634, Samuel and John, his brother, and John a first cousin, came out of Dedham, in the County of Essex, in England. Samuel married Sarah Mitchel in America, who came over with him. They settled at Stratford, in Connecticut. The two Johns settled in Watertown, in Massachusetts. The motto on the coat of arms of Sherman is—"Conquer Death by Virtue."

Samuel Sherman came to America in the ship "Elizabeth," from Ipswich, leaving in April and landing in Boston, Mass., in June, 1634.

Linus Sherman, eldest son of Daniel and Jemima (Crofut) Sherman, born August 20, 1776, married Artemisia Curtis November 6, 1800. He was a man of marked intellectual ability as student and teacher, of a delicate organization, a hopeful temperament, possessed a powerful memory and was a fine singer. He lived on his farm on Chestnut Hill in Zoar, Newtown, Conn., but was too delicate to work it. Was a public school teacher and teacher of vocal music. Died of typhoid fever in September, 1823.

Artemisia (Curtis) Sherman was born May 5, 1778, and lived in Newtown, a very great reader, especially of the Bible. She died in Bethany at the home of her daughter, Hannah Sherman Prince, in 1846; buried in Zoar Cemetery, Newtown County. She was the mother of seven children.

David Sherman, only son of Linus and Arte-

misia (Curtis) Sherman, was born in Newtown, Conn., March 24, 1804, married Elmira (Pearl) in Guilderland, daughter of Isaac and Mary (Willey) Pearl of Albany Connty, N. Y., October 23, 1831, where for twenty-one years he superintended a woolen factory. He invented felt cloth while in a factory at Danbury, Connecticut. He purchased a farm and lived on it two years, continuing his work in the factory and hiring his farming done, until the spring of 1851, when he emigrated with his family to Illinois, locating on Rock River near Rockford and engaged in farming. In February, 1852, he entered government land in Rock Island Connty near Port Byron, building thereon a comfortable frame house and otherwise improving it, doing the greater portion of the work himself.

He was a master mechanic, understood mechanism in all its manifold branches and could build anything he undertook. In 1854 he sold his farm and moved to Toronto, Clinton Connty, Iowa, where he died October 12, 1854, from typhoid fever at the age of fifty years. He was a lover of home and children, temperate in his mode of life, laborious in his application to business or the pursuit of knowledge. Music was his favorite recreation, playing the violin and flute. His widow, Elmira Pearl Sherman, was born November 15, 1813, in Guilderland, Albany Connty, N. Y. Their children were: Mary Elmira, born December 5, 1832, died April, 1835, in Troy, N. Y.; Hannah Lovina, born October 4, 1835, in Troy, N. Y.; William Pearl, born February 15, 1837, in Newtown, Conn.; James Linus, born April 11, 1839, in Guilderland, N. Y.; Daniel, born April, 1842, died June, 1842; Mary Pearl, born May 11, 1845, Guilderland, N. Y.; Frances Anna, born May 29, 1847, Guilderland, N. Y.; Phebe Etta, born in Guilderland, N. Y.; Sarah Elizabeth, born in Port Byron, Rock Island Connty, Ill., December 3, 1852, died October 3, 1854, in Toronto, Clinton Connty, Iowa. The mother of these children died at Windham, Portage Connty, Ohio, February 8, 1911. Her burial was in the West Greenville Cemetery.

William Pearl Sherman, son of Daniel and Elmira (Pearl) Sherman, was born in Newtown, Conn., February 15, 1837, married Margaret Ann, daughter of John and Priscilla (Worden) Yates, of Wappinger's Falls, N. Y., October 28, 1860, at Beloit, Wis. Place of residence, Quincy, Ill.; occupation, a commercial traveler. William P. Sherman was a Union soldier in the war of the Rebellion. He enlisted in the United States army August 7, 1862, as a private at Rockford, Ill. He assisted in recruiting Company E, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and was elected first sergeant and was mustered into service in August, 1862. Col. Jason March commanded the regiment, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, under the command of General Rosecrans; the Seventy-fifth brigaded with the Ninety-second Illinois, and the Twenty-second Indiana, Colonel Post commanding. In pursuit of the enemy, the first battle was Chapel Hill, near Nolansburg, Ky.; second battle, Stone River, near Murfreesboro, Tenn., where Bragg's army

was encountered and participated in one of the severest and hardest fought battles of the war. William B. Sherman was discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability, May 7, 1863.

James Linus Sherman, son of Daniel and Elmira (Pearl) Sherman, was born in Guilderland, Albany Connty, N. Y., April 11, 1839, a farmer of Rockford, Ill., married Emily Alice, daughter of John and Rachel (Biggers) Holdridge, November 24, 1870. He entered the Union army September, 1862, in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served with said regiment in the Army of the Cumberland until December 29, 1862; was discharged on account of disability. In 1864 he received from the Secretary of War an appointment as second lieutenant in the Sixty-eighth United States Colored Infantry, commanded by Col. J. B. Jones; promoted to first lieutenant September 19, 1864, and to captain of Company G, said regiment, October 21, 1865. The Sixty-eighth Colored regiment was a part of the First Division of colored troops, commanded by Gen. J. P. Hawkins and assigned to the Sixteenth Army Corps, under command of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, with the various expeditions of this command in Tennessee and Mississippi, until February, 1865, when the Sixty-eighth was transferred to the Army of the Gulf, taking an active part in the siege of Mobile, Ala., and the capturing of Fort Blakely, Ala., April 9, 1865. He served continuously with said regiment to the close of the war, being among the last to be mustered out at New Orleans, La., February 5, 1866.

SHUMWAY, Mrs. Hannah Lovina (Sherman), one of the honored residents of Winnebago Connty. is living at Rockford. She was born at Fort Schuyler, now Troy, N. Y., October 4, 1835, a daughter of Daniel Sherman, who died about 1854 when fifty-two years old. His wife died when seventy-six years old. They had the following children: Hannah Lovina, William Pearl, James Linus, Mary Pearl, Frances Anna, Daniel, and Sarah, who died in infancy, and Phoebe Etta, who died at the age of five years. Mr. and Mrs. Sherman moved to Winnebago Connty in 1851, renting a farm on Rock River, but a year later moved to Rock Island Connty, near Port Byron, where they pre-empted a farm from the government and remained a year. They then went to Clinton Connty, Iowa, where Mr. Sherman died, and the mother and children were separated soon thereafter.

In 1856 Hannah Lovina Sherman was married to Robert B. Holdridge, whom she had known since 1851. He came to Rockford, Ill., from New York with his parents, in 1849. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Holdridge: Francis Horn, who was born October 31, 1856, died November 29, 1878; Ella Pearl, who was born November 19, 1860, died in August, 1913; and Charles George, who was born June 10, 1863, married Anna Norton of East Bloomfield, N. Y., December 27, 1898, who died nineteen months later. On November 26, 1884, Mrs. Holdridge was married to R. B. Shum-

way. They had no children. Mr. Shumway was born May 25, 1835, at Oberlin, Ohio, a son of David S. and Sallie (Greeley) Shumway. The mother of Mr. Shumway was a cousin of Horace Greeley, and was born in Vermont, February 8, 1806, while the father of Mr. Shumway was born in Vermont, March 27, 1803. They were married November 20, 1825, and came to Illinois in 1828. By trade he was a carpenter. They settled in Winnebago County, near Kishwaukee on Rock River, May 29, 1836. R. B. Shumway was a widower when he married Mrs. Holdridge, his first wife, Sarah (Hall) Shumway, having died in 1883. They had had five children as follows: Alva E., who was born January 1, 1859; Carrie F., who was born March 17, 1860, married John McEvoy, and both are deceased; Hattie M., who was born December 2, 1861, married William Homer of Indianapolis, Ind., and died leaving one child, Beulah; Nora J., who was born August 11, 1863, married George Graham, and is living on a farm in New Milford Township, has three children; Minnie C., born April 17, 1869, married Arthur Ericson and resides at Rockford; and Harry E., born September 1, 1874, conducted a general store at Monroe Center, Ill., but is now engaged with Charles Jackson in a real estate business at Rockford.

Mr. Shumway lived all his life since he was one year old in New Milford and vicinity. While residing in New Milford he held the office of treasurer of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, which position he retained from 1875 until death. He was elected assessor of New Milford in 1873, and held that position until 1910 when he was forced to resign on account of failing health. For fifteen years he was clerk of the board of school trustees of New Milford and also held position of treasurer of the school board.

When a small boy his father secured the contract to deliver the mail from Beloit, Wis., to Dixon, Ill. It was Mr. Shumway's semi-weekly task to take the mail from the home to Westfield Corners. He made the trip on horseback, having to ford the river and in the spring and fall when the water was high the lad swam the horse across. He saw the county develop from the time of the battle of Stillman's Run and Black Hawk almost to the present. He was a sufferer from Bright's disease and passed away December 31, 1911.

SHERATT, John Hall, who, during his lifetime was one of the most prominent citizens of Rockford, serving the city as one of its most effective mayors, was a native of Winnebago County. He was born in Burrit Township, April 12, 1845, a son of Thomas and Lydia (Holmes) Sherratt. His parents were natives of England who came to the United States young, both settling in Pennsylvania, where they were married. Soon thereafter they came to Winnebago County, Ill., and lived on a farm they purchased until 1848, when they moved to

Rockford, and there the father embarked in a saddle and harness business.

John Hall Sherratt was educated in the local schools of his native township and the Rockford High school. In 1862 he enlisted in the company raised by the Young Men's Christian Association, which became a part of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and he served during the Civil war and in the army afterwards until 1866. He was provost marshal at Huntsville, Ala., on the staff of General Grierson. Being pleased with the climate and locality, he bought a plantation after his period of service expired, and spent several years in that section. Returning to Rockford, Ill., he became agent for the Rockford Insurance Company, having charge of the business of that concern for the state of Illinois. Later he went in with the Forest City Insurance Company, and became its secretary and later its president, serving in the latter capacity for a quarter of a century. He was also president of the Third National Bank of Rockford for ten years, holding that office at the time of his death, March 15, 1906. His popularity and sound business sense made him the logical people's candidate for mayor when it was decided to place a business man in the executive chair, and his subsequent election and administration proved that the faith his fellow citizens placed in him was justified. Mr. Sherratt belonged to the Illinois Post of the Loyal Legion, and was senior vice commander at the time of his death. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., also held his membership. For many years he was a member of the board of trustees of the Winnebago County Home for the Aged, acting as such when death claimed him, and he was also president of the Army & Navy League during the Spanish-American war.

On December 13, 1873, Mr. Sherratt was married to Harriet Wight, born at Rockford, a daughter of James M. and Harriett (Barnum) Wight, natives of Huntington, Mass., and Danbury, Conn. Mr. Wight left a law school in New York state to come to Rockford in 1838, and was joined the year later by his brother, Ambrose Wight. James Wight was recognized as the most highly educated lawyer of his times in Winnebago County. At the time of his death Mr. Wight was the attorney for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad at Rockford. He never abandoned his studies and reading so that he was a very well read and informed man not only in his profession but outside of it. His death occurred December 5, 1877. Mrs. Wight came to Rockford in 1839, being then a school girl. She died in 1852. There was one son born to Mr. and Mrs. Sherratt. Mrs. Sherratt attends the Congregational Church. She is a dame of the Loyal Legion, of Chicago, and is a member of the Woman's Club, the Monday Club, the Eighty-four Club, and is a trustee of Rockford College and the Winnebago County Home for the Aged, and of Rockford Hospital, being a lady of broad sympathies and many charities.

SHERWOOD, Charles Morton. One of the men who while living was regarded as one of Rockford's substantial men and desirable citizens was the late Charles M. Sherwood. He was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., May 25, 1834, a son of Captain and Salome Sherwood. Captain Sherwood was born in New York State, as was his wife. They were married and moved to Livingston County, N. Y., when Charles was two years old. After a residence at that point for ten years another change was made and removal was accomplished to Galesburg, Kalamazoo County, Mich. After a stay of two years, the family went back to Livingston County, N. Y., where the parents died, and Charles went to live with a sister at Rush, in that county. There he grew to manhood and began working for a railroad, thus continuing until he was twenty-one years old. He then returned to his sister's home, but left for Rochester, N. Y., in company with his sister and brother-in-law, the two men embarking in the hotel business. Still later, Mr. Sherwood went into the hotel business for himself at Geneseo, N. Y., but in three years sold it, and went first to Rochester, N. Y., for one year, and later to Springfield, Ill. In the fall of 1865, he located at Rockford, and became a commercial traveler first for himself, and afterward for the Bell-Conrad Company of Chicago, so continuing for fifteen years, until 1885, when he retired on account of poor health. He was a sufferer for twenty-five years, and was not actively engaged in any business until his death, which occurred April 3, 1912.

On November 15, 1860, Mr. Sherwood was married to Miss Elizabeth Terwilliger, a daughter of Abram Terwilliger. Mrs. Sherwood died at Rockford, Ill., in May, 1885. In September, 1886, Mr. Sherwood married her sister, Margaret, who, with her son, Orin S. Rugg, had made their home with them for five years. Mrs. Sherwood still resides at the home, No. 622 Mulberry street, Rockford. Mrs. Margaret Sherwood was married (first) to Orin P. Rugg, who was born at Saratoga Springs, N. Y. During the Civil War he enlisted in the Seventy-seventh New York Volunteer Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Spottsylvania Courthouse, while in command of the regiment, May 12, 1864. He and his wife had one child—Orin S. Rugg. The latter married Louise Sealy, a daughter of George Sealy, and they have two children Margaret and Laura. Mr. Rugg is connected with the Nelson Knitting Company of Rockford. On February 8, 1912, Mrs. Sherwood fell, breaking her hip, and was in the hospital at the time of Mr. Sherwood's death, and was not able to attend the funeral. Mr. Sherwood was a member of the Christian Union Church. Fraternally he was a Mason, while his political convictions caused him to support the Republican party. A man of unswerving integrity, he honored his community, and left behind him a name that is remembered with respect.

SHORES, Floyd H., superintendent of meters in the service department of the city water works of Rockford, with residence at No. 219 Adams street, is one of the efficient men in the

employ of the city. He was born at Rockford, November 3, 1883, a son of Milton H. and Catharine (Garey) Shores.

The educational training of Mr. Shores was obtained at Rockford, and after leaving school, he worked in various of the plants in the city, learning the trade of a machinist with the Emerson & Burson Company, being with this concern for four years. In 1903 he began reading meters for the city water works, and was made foreman in 1911, and is now superintendent of his department and one of the most valued of the city employes.

On September 14, 1905, Mr. Shores was married to Mary Hanson who was born at Rockford. Mr. Shores belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Court of Honor. He attends the Lutheran Church. In politics he is independent. Mr. Shores has installed all the meters in the city, about 11,000, and the service he has and is rendering, is of great moment to the city. Faithful, expert and capable, Mr. Shores has fairly won the esteem in which he is held and at the same time placed the people under a debt to him.

SIEWENIE, John G., superintendent and vice president of the Rockford Pure Ice & Fuel Company, with offices at No. 1015 School street, is one of the substantial business men of Rockford. He is rendering the city valuable service in furnishing its people with honest products and reliable service. He was born at Chicago, April 24, 1872, and there educated. He learned the machinist trade and followed it at the Charles Kaistner & Company plant, Chicago, and when he left the employ of that company, he went into an ice business with his uncle, George Ruh, of Chicago, and so continued until 1910, when he came to Rockford and founded his present business. The Chicago business he and his uncle founded, became a part of the Knickerbocker Ice Company, and for a time prior to his locating at Rockford, Mr. Siewenie operated that branch for the corporation. The Rockford business he founded, was but a small one in the beginning, and he had but three wagons. In 1911, he incorporated the business with a capital stock of \$20,000, and in 1913 increased the stock to \$30,000. The company have twelve wagons and control a large and valuable trade. Twenty men are employed.

Mr. Siewenie was married at Chicago, in 1895, to Anne Deutschmann, born in that city. Their children are as follows: John, Edna, Lorine, Myrtle and Glenn, all of whom are at home. He is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and the order of Owls. St. Mary's Catholic Church holds his membership, and receives his conscientious support. In politics he is independent. Experienced in his line, Mr. Siewenie has been able to forge ahead, and his standing at Rockford in his line, is second to none.

SILL, Anna Peck, page 753.

SIMON, Glenn C., one of the most reliable and popular druggists of the West side, is conveniently located at No. 319 W. State street,

Rockford. He was born at Lawler, Iowa, December 8, 1887, a son of A. J. and Anna (Clapham) Simon. The father was also born at Lawler, while the mother was born at Little Turkey, Iowa. In early manhood the father was a stock broker at Woonsocket, S. Dak., but later engaged in a harness manufacturing business, and is now a manufacturer of cement and tile block silos and resides at Waukon, Iowa. In politics he is a Republican. The mother died in 1897, aged twenty-seven years.

Glenn C. Simon was reared and educated at Lawler and Waukon, Iowa, and when he was fifteen years old went to LaCrosse, Wis., where he took a commercial course. He later entered the Des Moines College of Pharmacy at Des Moines, Iowa, from which he was graduated. Following that he went to Cheyenne, Wyo., where he clerked in a drug store owned by A. E. Rodel, and later was with the Sun Drug Company, at Colorado Springs, Col. Still later he was with the Victor Pharmacy at Victor, Cal. He then went to Los Angeles, Cal., to engage with the Dean Drug Company, and upon leaving that concern, came to Rockford, and on July 1, 1914, embarked in his present business at No. 319 W. State street, his father being interested in the enterprise. Here he carries a full line of drugs and such goods as modern drug stores handle and has one of the finest establishments of its kind in the city.

On October 29, 1914, Mr. Simon was married to Miss Catherine Collins, at Waukon, Iowa, a daughter of T. J. and Mary (Gillespie) Collins of that place. Mr. and Mrs. Simon have one daughter, Marian, born December 13, 1915. Mr. Simon belongs to the Elks, the Order of the Moose and the Knights of Columbus. He is a young man of more than average ability and his long and varied experience makes him one of the leading men in his profession in this section.

SKEYHAN, Fred F., whose drug store in the Stewart office building, is recognized as one of the best equipped and most reliable in Rockford, is one of the leading men in his profession. He is a native of Rockford, born October 22, 1866, a son of Jeremiah and Catherine Skeyhan. The father, who was a carpenter by trade, moved to Rockford in 1864 and passed away in 1909; the mother died in 1911.

Fred F. Skeyhan was reared and primarily educated at Rockford, but later attended the Northwestern University, from which he was graduated in 1889. He then returned to Rockford and engaged with John R. Porter & Co., druggists, and held his position with them for fifteen years, having been with them prior to taking his collegiate course. In 1898 Mr. Skeyhan embarked in his present business, being in the same location from the start, and he has here built up a fine business and is patronized by the best people in the city. This is strictly a prescription drug store and sells no patent medicine.

On November 6, 1896, Mr. Skeyhan was married to Miss Julia Code, a daughter of Joseph

Code of Rochelle, Ill., who was connected with the office force of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at that point. Mr. and Mrs. Skeyhan have three children: Frederick, Catherine and George. Mr. Skeyhan is a member of the order of Elks. An expert in his profession, he combines knowledge and experience with keen business judgment and an appreciation of the requirements of his customers, and his prosperity has been honorably earned.

SKOG, Richard P., foreman of the machine shop of the Excel Manufacturing Company, with residence at No. 1411 Fifteenth avenue, is one of the skilled workmen and reliable men of Rockford and one who stands very high in public estimation. He was born in Sweden, February 21, 1872, and there educated. In 1888 Mr. Skog came to the United States, and locating at Rockford, commenced working on a farm, so continuing for two years. For the subsequent two years he was in the Diamond chair factory, and then for about one year was with the Illinois chair factory. For seven years he was with the Frame & Fixture Company, and then for four years he worked for the Rockford Cabinet Company, during all of this time gaining an experience that developed him into a very valuable man, so that when he went with his present company, he was made foreman of its machine shop.

In 1897 Mr. Skog was married at Rockford to Esther Lindstrom, born at Rockford, and their children are as follows: Paul, Sylvia and Stanley. Mr. Skog belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a Republican. Zion Lutheran Church holds his membership and he takes comfort in its services. Not only does Mr. Skog own his residence, but also stock in his company, and is justly numbered among the substantial, reliable men of the city where for so many years his efforts have been centered.

SLADE, Carrie A., superintendent of the Jennie Snow Home for Aged Women, and a woman of an uncommon order of mentality, was born at New York City, N. Y., a daughter of Stephen and Phoebe Ann (Huestis) Slade, natives of Massachusetts and New York, respectively. The father was a dentist who came to Polo, Ill., in 1860, and in 1869 moved to Elgin, Ill., where he died in 1899, his wife passing away in 1878. Miss Slade went to Chicago in 1886, and for several years was a very efficient stenographer there.

E. Payson Snow, husband of Mrs. Jennie Snow, was born in Maine, and from there came to Illinois, and for twenty years was a farmer of Ogle County. He then sold his property and moved to Rockford, but died at Vineland, N. J. Mrs. Snow continued to reside at Rockford until her death in 1904. A lady of charitable tendencies, she desired to donate a portion of her fortune for the purpose of assisting those less fortunate than herself, and decided that the philanthropy she preferred was one that would provide a home for some members of her sex

who had been left destitute. The Jennie Snow Home for Aged Women is one of the worthy charitable institutions of Rockford, and its establishment and maintenance bear witness to the broad and kindly benevolence of the founder. The home was founded in June, 1907, for the purpose of caring for aged women, there being accomodation for sixteen inmates, and since its foundation, its affairs have been in charge of Miss Slade, who was acquainted with Mrs. Snow all her life, and much of the successful operation of the institution is due to this lady's experience and wise management.

Miss Slade is a well educated lady, having attended the grade and high schools of Elgin and further cultivated her natural abilities by contact with the world and by extensive reading. She is a member of the Christian Union Church. A club woman, she is a potent factor and member of the Woman, Mendelssohn and Unity clubs and the Art Association, all of which receive benefit from her connection with them.

SMITH, Abraham E., page 734.

SMITH, Archie M., now retired, is one of the prominent and influential citizens of Winnebago Township. He was born in Seward Township, this county, September 12, 1868, a son of Robert C. and Catherine (Stewart) Smith. The maternal grandfather, a native of Scotland, was among the pioneers of Minnesota, and two of his sons, Andrew and John Stewart, were soldiers in the Union army during the Civil war.

Robert C. Smith, father of Archie M. Smith, came from Scotland to the United States about 1854, and to Winnebago County in 1856, first locating in Burrit Township where he lived on rented farms until 1860, in that year purchasing eighty acres of land in Seward Township, and on this spent the balance of his life. He continued to add to his acreage until he owned 520 acres of fine land, and made the greater part of the improvements upon his property. His death occurred upon his farm in 1900 when he was seventy-one years old. His widow died in 1910, aged eighty-four years. Their children were as follows: Andrew Hugh; Robert; John, who is deceased; Lizzie, who married J. Z. Smith; and Archie M.

Archie M. Smith was reared on the homestead, and attended the schools in his district. When he was eighteen years old he and his brothers rented the farm, but one by one they left it, only Hugh and Archie M. remaining. They own 240 acres of the original homestead. Archie M. retired in 1912, and purchased his handsome brick residence and five acres of land in Winnebago Township where he now lives.

On April 3, 1912, Archie M. Smith was married to Tillie Schenck, a daughter of George and Lanah (Mitchell) Schenck, of Nebraska. In the autumn of 1912 Mr. and Mrs. Smith spent several months in touring the Pacific coast and had a most enjoyable trip. Both are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Smith was elected

assessor of Winnebago Township in 1914, although he has no inclination for official honors. In politics he is an independent voter.

SMITH, Cecil Chapman, whose dyeing and cleaning establishment is located at No. 110 N. First street, Rockford, has a reputation for high class work and reliability of service that extends all over the city. He was born in Burlington Township, Kane County, Ill., June 8, 1875, a son of Ira W. and Ada (Chapman) Smith of Kane County, Ill. The father was a farmer who spent all of his life in Kane County with the exception of four years when he was in Iowa. His death occurred in 1895. The mother lives at Burlington, Ill. Their children were as follows: Cecil Chapman; Ethel M., who is deceased; Pearl, who lives at Selma, Cal.; Franklin, who lives with his mother; Clyde, who lives in North Dakota, and Claude, who lives at Rockford, the last two being twins.

When he was thirteen years old, Cecil C. Smith went to Spring Valley, Minn., and worked for farmers during the summers and attended school in the winters until he was nineteen years old, at which time he came to Rockford and began working on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad as a brakeman, being later promoted to the position of baggage master, and continuing with this road for eight years. In 1903 he started into a tailoring and pantatorium business, and a year later established his present enterprise at No. 119 S. Third street, but in 1910 moved the business to N. First street, where he has commodious quarters, and is prepared to do all kinds of dyeing and cleaning of clothing. His work is of so excellent a quality that his trade is a very large one that shows a healthy increase with each year.

In 1902 Mr. Smith was married to Mary E. Logan, born January 6, 1884, at Worcester, Mass., a daughter of John W. Logan. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have no children. He belongs to Genoa Lodge No. 163, A. F. & A. M., Rockford Lodge, B. P. O. E. No. 64; Rockford Lodge, O. E. S.; Rockford Lodge, White Shrine and Moose. A man of excellent business capabilities, he has known how to push ahead, and his other traits of character combined with this quality, make him a desirable addition to the business life of Rockford.

SMITH, Daniel M. One of the oldest and best known families of Winnebago County is that founded here in 1842 by Daniel Smith. He was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, and there grew up amid rural surroundings, learning the lessons of thrift and economy so characteristic of his people. With a family of children, he saw, that in order to give them the opportunities he desired for them, he must seek a wider field for labor and with them, in 1842, he took passage on an old sailing vessel which took a month to cross the ocean to the United States. The trip from New York to Rockford, Ill., also took a month, but once he

arrived, the hardy pioneer took up government land in Harlem Township, and lived upon it for the years he survived the journey. His children were as follows: Robert, John, Alexander, Archibald, Daniel, William, Mary and Jane.

A grandson of Daniel Smith, Daniel M. Smith, now living retired at Rockford, is a son of John Smith, the second son, and his wife Elizabeth (Moutgomery) Smith. He was born in Harlem Township, May 25, 1852, and lived in that township until 1879, when he located on a 150-acre farm he bought in Rockford Township. There he continued to reside, operating his property until 1912, when he retired, and located at No. 1618 Montague street, Rockford.

On February 13, 1879, Daniel M. Smith was married to Catherine Brown, a daughter of Charles and Isabella (Kelly) Brown, and they have one son, Charles, who is operating the home farm. Mr. Smith was elected supervisor of his township in 1909, and has served ever since. He is a member of the local Grange, and after being its master for one term, became its treasurer and is still serving as such. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Rockford.

SMITH, Frederic A., president and treasurer of the Frederic A. Smith Lumber Company, and president of the Smith, Duplain and Crumb Company, jobbers and wholesale dealers in lumber, with offices at No. 202 Brown building, is an important factor in the lumber interests of this section, as well as one of the sound business men of Rockford. He was born in this city, June 16, 1858, a son of George M. and Calista J. (Bronson) Smith. Both parents were born in New York state, the mother's birthplace being Warsaw. In 1857 the father came to Rockford, where he embarked in a dry goods business and continued in this line until his death in 1878, at the age of forty-five years. The mother died in July, 1912, aged seventy-six years. They were members of the Congregational Church. In politics the father was a Republican, while fraternally he was a Mason.

Frederic A. Smith was reared and educated at Rockford, and for a number of years was associated with his father in the dry goods business. For five years he was with the Emerson-Talcott Company as a member of its office force, leaving to embark in a lumber business at Kewanee, Ill. After three years, he sold this enterprise, and was a traveling salesman for the lumber house of I. Stephenson Company of Chicago for ten years. Returning to Rockford, he embarked in a retail lumber business, but later sold it to become a wholesale jobber of lumber. In 1903 he established a retail line yard business, operating at several points in central Illinois, with his general offices at Rockford. A man of unusual capacity for business operations, Mr. Smith has developed his opportunities, and become an important factor in his special lines. Fraternally he is an Elk. His politics make him a Republican. The Congre-

gational Church has his membership and support.

In December, 1895, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Nellie Lyman, a daughter of Elias and Adelaide T. (Trask) Lyman of Kewanee, Ill., where Mr. Lyman successfully operated very extensively as a dry goods merchant. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children, namely: Helen Lyman and Louise Lyman, both of whom are at home. The family residence is at No. 1227 National avenue, where a gracious hospitality is dispensed and a lovely home atmosphere created.

SMITH, George Warren. Judging from the prosperity of the agriculturists of Winnebago County, farming is an occupation that pays large dividends, and one of the men who devoted many years to this line of work is George Warren Smith of Owen Township. He was born at Rockton, Ill., March 26, 1869, a son of Henry and Julia (Warren) Smith. The paternal grandfather, Roland Smith, came to Winnebago County, Ill., in the early forties, emigrating from Horseheads, N. Y. Taking up government land, he lived upon it until his death. He married Margaret Westlake, and their son, Henry, was one of nine children, all of whom grew to maturity in Winnebago County with the exception of one who died in infancy. Roland Smith enlisted in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry for service in the Civil war, and continued therein for four years. The maternal great-great-grandfather, William Warren, was a Revolutionary soldier.

George Warren Smith attended the public schools of his native place, and was reared as a farmer. His tastes running in this direction, he engaged in cultivating the soil for a considerable period, owning a valuable farm in Owen Township. This farm he subsequently sold. On October 1, 1909, he was chosen to fill the position of superintendent of Winnebago County Farm. He has here performed his duty so well that he still remains in that position. Many people have visited the farm to note the system of carrying on the farm work. For four years he was constable of Owen Township, and has also been a school director. Mr. Smith is one of the best known citizens in Rockford and Winnebago County, as his work takes him a great deal in the city where he meets with many people. He is a man of much enterprise.

On January 18, 1890, Mr. Smith was married at Rockford to Mary E. Sohner, a daughter of Edward and Rosina (Witland) Sohner, and they have four children: Mabel M., Edith H., Eva M., and Nellie M., all of whom are at home. The family attend the Methodist Church and are prominent in the good work of the local denomination.

SMITH, Hugh S., a representative citizen of Seward Township, has spent nearly all his life in Winnebago County. He was born in Guilford Township, February 14, 1858. His father was Robert C. Smith, who was a pioneer in what is familiarly known as the "Scotch Settlement."

The elder Smith and his family subsequently removed to Burrit Township, and from there removed in 1861 to a farm on section 36 in Seward Township. Their son, the subject of this sketch, resided in Seward until 1894, when he settled on a farm in York County, Neb. He remained there until February, 1900, when he returned to Seward. Mr. Smith and a brother, Archie M., purchased the Dudley Day farm of 160 acres on section 16, which they own together.

Mr. Smith and Miss Mary S. Hunter, of Winnebago Township, were united in marriage October 15, 1895. She is a native of Campbelltown, Argyleshire, Scotland, where she was born December 29, 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have four children: Janet, Robert, Agnes and Elizabeth.

Mr. Smith has been repeatedly honored by the citizens of his township. He was elected supervisor of Seward in 1904, has been re-elected at every succeeding election, and is now serving his twelfth year. Upon the reorganization of the county board in April, 1916, Mr. Smith was unanimously elected chairman for the year. Mr. Smith has a record book that is unique. One feature is a transcript, which he has made, of the returns of all township elections held in Seward since 1850, when township organization went into effect, down to 1916. In later elections, where it has been possible to do so, Mr. Smith has recorded the vote given each candidate. This record tells a large part of the political history of Seward Township in the smallest possible space. In every community there is at least one person who has the historic instinct, by which he collects material for some historian. Mr. Smith has performed this service for Seward.

SMITH, James, who for many years was one of Winnebago County's most respected and representative men, was born in England, a son of Edward Smith. When the latter died he had fifty-four grandchildren, thirty-three great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren, the family being a very prolific one. On the day that King George IV died, James Smith set sail from London, England, for New York, in the year 1830, and the voyage took six weeks. From New York City he made his way to Dearborn County, Ind., and this trip also took six weeks. Subsequently he went to Canada where he remained until 1863, but in that year came to Winnebago County, Ill., and for a year lived at Rockford. In 1864 he bought 160 acres of land in Seward Township, and operated it until 1875, in that year retiring to the village of Winnebago where he lived until his death on April 7, 1885, when he was eighty-seven years old.

James Smith married Jane Langdale, a daughter of Thomas and Jane (Hill) Langdale, natives of Yorkshire, England. Their children were as follows: Elizabeth, who married Stephen Liddle; Thomas James, who was killed in battle during the Civil war, when he was in

the command of Gen. Banks; Mary Jane, who married Robert Raymond; Edward; Martha, who married Thomas White; John; Ann; Robert; and Sarah H. who married Rev. James Thaxter. James Smith wrote his own epitaph which he designed for his tombstone, but this interesting item was accidentally destroyed. The Smith family is one of the best known in Winnebago County, and its representatives have all borne their share in its upbuilding and advancement.

SMITH, Nicholas, manager of the American Express Company at Rockford, is a man typical of the policy of his company, and in his alert, capable manner is furnishing the people of this vicinity with a service that is unsurpassed. He was born at Green Bay, Wis., May 1, 1889, a son of George and Hannah (Christopherson) Smith. The father was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, and the mother at Green Bay, Wis. In early life the father left Germany, came to America, and located at Winona, Minn., where he engaged in farming, but after a year moved to Green Bay, Wis., where he continued farming, and is still living at that point. The mother's people were farmers in the vicinity of Green Bay. In politics the father is a Republican. He is a member of the Moravian Church.

Nicholas Smith grew up at Green Bay, and after completing the public and high school courses, attended a business college for two years. Going then to Menominee, Mich., he became a clerk with the American Express Company, and was so efficient that he was made manager for the company's office at Escanaba, Mich., and later on at Green Bay. On June 23, 1913, he was transferred to Rockford, to become the company's representative in this city. He belongs to the Masons and the Modern Woodmen, and is popular in both orders. The Moravian Church holds his membership.

In September, 1908, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Emily Owen, born April 7, 1878, at Escanaba, Mich., and they have one child, Roder Owen, born June 23, 1910. It is rather unusual for a man to spend his entire business life with one company, but in Mr. Smith's case this concentration has worked to the mutual benefit of his company, himself, and the public.

SMITH, Richard W., a veteran of the Civil war and one of the substantial residents of Rockford, is a man who has made his mark in the world and stands high with his fellow citizens. He was born in Medina County, Ohio, October 5, 1844, a son of Giles C. and Electa (Hayden) Smith, natives of Connecticut. The grandparents were Isaac George Smith and Richard Hayden, also natives of Connecticut, the latter being a sea captain.

The parents of Richard W. Smith were married in Connecticut, but later moved to Pennsylvania, where they engaged in farming, and subsequently went to Ohio. In 1852 they moved to Winnebago County, Ill., where the father bought a farm south of Pecatonica, and

conducted it for some years, but then sold and went to Jo Daviess County, Ill. The mother died February 25, 1858, and after her death the father returned to Pennsylvania and lived with some of his relatives, but later went to Nebraska to join his son, Richard W., and there he died November 8, 1873. His children were as follows: Isaac George, who died at the age of twenty-one years; Elizabeth, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Hollem and Mary, who are both deceased; Richard W.; Phoebe, who is Mrs. Albert Atkins, of Elgin, Nebraska; and Sophia, who is a widow, living at Sterling, Ill.

After his mother's death, Richard W. Smith worked on the farm in Jo Daviess County until his enlistment on June 11, 1861, for service during the Civil war, at Freeport, Ill., in Company D, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to the Western Army. He was in the battle of Shiloh and mounted guard over the body of Colonel Ellis of Rockford, after he was killed in that engagement; siege of Corinth; battle of Hatchie Run; siege of Vicksburg; battle of Champion's Hill, after which he was on detached service at division headquarters of the quartermaster's department. He received his honorable discharge June 15, 1864, after which he went to Pecatonica and attended school for one year. He then embarked in the business of manufacturing corn planters, at Sterling, Ill., but after two years returned to farming. In 1876, he went land and conducted it until 1876, when he went to Elkhorn, Neb., and took up a homestead and tree claim, proving upon them and remaining on them until 1888 when he sold and returned to Rockford on account of poor health. He bought one eleven-acre piece of land and another of twenty acres near Rockford, and made a specialty of raising small fruit. Later he invested in other land, but finally sold his holdings and bought property at Rockford, where he has since resided, with the exception of three years when he lived in Chicago in order to give his daughter better educational advantages.

In 1869 Mr. Smith was married to Eva Eggleston, born at Medina, Ohio, a daughter of Asahel and Naucy (Teachout) Eggleston, natives of Saratoga Springs, N. Y., and New York State, respectively. Their children were as follows: Oscar, who is a Methodist minister of Ewing, Neb.; William, who is deceased; Mrs. Smith; and May, who is Mrs. W. H. Wilcox, of School street, Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Smith became the parents of one daughter, Vera Eggleston. She was educated in the Chicago Conservatory of Music and Wendell Phillips High School. She is a student member of the Mendelssohn Club, and belongs to the Woman's Club at Rockford; she is a fine musician, and an interpretative dancer of ability. In politics Mr. Smith is a Republican. He belongs to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. Mrs. Smith was educated in the public and high schools of Rockford and taught school in Antelope County, Neb. She belongs to the Mendelssohn and

Woman's Clubs and to the Woman's Relief Corps, both she and her daughter being highly educated ladies of more than usual mentality.

SNELL, August G., superintendent of transportation of the Rockford and Interurban Railroad Company, and a man of uncommon intelligence and executive ability, has worked remarkable changes in his road since assuming his present position, and has developed its service until it is second to none. He was born in Muncie, Ind., in 1875, a son of Albert and Sarah (Harrison) Snell. Albert Snell was born at Piqua, Ohio, and the mother was born near Muncie, Ind. After receiving his educational training at his native place, the father learned the machinist trade, and became a general mechanic. Later he moved to Muncie, Ind., where he followed his trade as a general mechanic, and continued in the same line when he went to Marshall County, Ind. There he died in 1906, aged fifty-six years. The mother survives. Her people were substantial farmers. In politics the father was a Republican.

August G. Snell grew up at Lake Maxinkuckee, Ind., where he was educated. He taught school for two years, and then moved to Muncie, Ind., where he was employed in the service of the Citizens Street Railway Company's shops. Later he became a motorman, and subsequently was made trainmaster in the superintendent's office at Anderson, Ind. His next position was that of division freight agent at Indianapolis, Ind., and in 1913 he came to Rockford, where he accepted his present position. As he is a practical man and has worked his way up from the bottom, he is able to understand his men and not to ask more of them than he has already done himself.

In 1908 Mr. Snell was married to Miss Ida Richter, of Anderson, Ind., and they have one child, Dorothy L., who was born in 1910. Mr. Snell is an Odd Fellow and a member of the Order of Moose. In politics he is a Republican. He is greatly interested in religious work, and is superintendent of the Central Christian Sunday school. The family residence is at No. 1830 Harlem avenue. Mr. Snell is a very well educated man, and in addition to his literary studies, read law, and was admitted to the bar at Muncie, Ind., in 1906. A man of ability, he has not allowed himself to develop along one line only, but has branched out and has trained his powers so that he is well balanced.

SNOW, Hiram. With the passing of an honored citizen any community suffers a severe loss and it is not possible to fill his place in every way. This is especially true in the case of the late Hiram Snow, of Rockford, who was one of the respected, esteemed and successful men of Winnebago County. He was born in Vermont, February 17, 1830, a son of Ira and Rebecca Snow, and died at Rockford, May 17, 1903.

Brought to Chicago in 1838, by his parents, Hiram Snow was educated in that city, and later

took up government land at Arlington Heights, Ill., there doing gardening until 1881, when he sold his property and moved to Rockford. He bought 100 acres just about two miles north of the city in Rockford Township. This farm was in a run down condition, but he built it up and specialized in the raising of cucumbers and from them manufactured pickles for the market. He was a man of business enterprise and in time he founded a pickle factory, the only one at Rockford, which is still conducted by his son, Junius C. Snow.

On November 12, 1856, Hiram Snow was married to Naoma Perry, born in New York state, a daughter of Hiram and Margaret (Coleman) Perry of Vermont. Mrs. Snow died February 27, 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Snow had the following children: Fred, who died in infancy; Anna J., who is Mrs. Joseph Schelling of Guilford Township; Clara J., who lives at Rockford; Emily A., who is Mrs. George W. Marsh, of Guilford Township; Margaret, who is Mrs. E. L. Budlong, of Chicago; Hiram, who died in 1893; Mabel N., who lives with Clara J., is a public school teacher, the young ladies having lived in their present home since 1902, it being the residence purchased by their father; June, who married C. J. Householder of Guilford Township, died April 6, 1912; and Junius C., who operates the pickle factory. He married Mabel G. Carman. Mr. Snow was married (second) to Mrs. Emma Coleman, widow of Fred Danley. There were no children born to this marriage. Mr. Snow was a Republican, and for a time served as tax collector in Cook County. During his early life he joined the Masonic order at Palatine, Ill. A man of kind impulses and industrious habits, he not only was successful in his undertakings, but made many friends who held him in high esteem throughout life.

SNOW, Junius C., proprietor of the Rockford Pickle Works, owns and operates one of the old established concerns of this city, and is a man of unusual business acumen. He was born in Cook County, Ill., June 29, 1876, a son of Hiram Snow, and a grandson of Ira Snow. Hiram Snow was born in Vermont. He was brought to Chicago by his parents when there were but 8,000 people in the future metropolis. There his father, Ira Snow, operated a hotel for some time, but later moved into the country regions of Cook County, where the family were residing at the time of the great Chicago fire. The Snows were acquainted with a number of the pioneers of Chicago, and Junius C. Snow remembers many interesting stories his father and grandfather used to relate regarding some of these men who later became distinguished in the history of their city.

The Snow family came to Rockford in 1881, and Junius C. was reared in this city and educated in its public schools and was graduated from the high school in 1894. His father, during 1881 had founded the Rockford Pickle Works, and took his son into the concern, and the latter has devoted his entire life to this

line of endeavor. Hiram Snow was well qualified to found this kind of a business, as he had conducted a similar one at Arlington Heights, Ill., prior to locating at Rockford. The Rockford plant now occupies three floors, 40x50 feet, and one floor 18x50 feet. The salting shed is 80x110 feet, one story in height. Mr. Snow has 105 acres of land which he devotes to the raising of cucumbers which are pickled for the wholesale trade only, in quart jars, kegs and barrels, the product being taken principally by Rockford houses. Employment is given to four or five men the year round, and in the summer from fifty to sixty hands are employed. Since the death of his father, on May 17, 1903, Junius C. Snow has conducted the business alone. His mother died in 1889, and the father later married a second time, his widow surviving him.

On December 12, 1900, Junius C. Snow was married to Mabel Grace Carman, a daughter of Philip and Mary (Pell) Carman, and they have three sons, namely: Hiram Philip, Kenneth Carman, and Harry Junius. Mr. Snow belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M. He is a man of serious purpose and high ideals, and under his able management his business shows a steady and healthy increase with each succeeding year.

SNYDER, Aubrey A. Forty-eight years of residence have made Aubrey A. Snyder one of the best known citizens of Rockton, where, in spite of his seventy-three years, he remains actively engaged in business, apparently with the same undimmed faculties and energetic spirit that he possessed at the time of his advent here not long after his discharge from the Federal army, in which he had established an enviable record during the Civil war. Mr. Snyder was born at Springwater, Livingston County, N. Y., October 28, 1842, and is a son of Nelson S. and Polly C. (Ingoldsby) Snyder, the latter a resident of the same place, and the former a native of Scipio, N. Y. The father was a contractor and builder by occupation and passed his entire life in New York, where both he and the mother passed away.

Aubrey A. Snyder received only limited educational advantages in his youth, and at the age of fourteen years left his home and went to Oakland County, Mich., where he secured employment on a farm and remained four years, and, for a short time operated an old-fashioned threshing machine. When the Civil war came on he cast all else aside in order to go to the front in defense of the flag of his country. On September 8, 1861, he enlisted in Company G, Thirteenth N. Y. Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to McClellan's command, subsequently participating in numerous hard-fought engagements. These included the siege of Yorktown, West Point, Malvern Hill and Hanover Court House, and at Harrison's Landing Mr. Snyder was taken with typhoid fever and was removed to David's Island, in Long Island Sound, where he remained in the hospital until he recovered, when he took

charge of the island guard. He received his honorable discharge April 1, 1863, and returned to his home, but the war again claimed him in the fall, and September 13, 1863, he enlisted in the Twenty-first N. Y. Cavalry, and wintered with that organization near Washington. In March, 1864, he went into the Shenandoah Valley, on scout duty, and remained in that service until the surrender of General Lee, when he and his comrades were sent to Colorado to put down an uprising of the Indians. During his scouting period he also took part in the battles of Charleston, Winchester, Bunker Hill, Mount Jackson, Piedmont and Lynchburg, at the last named place having his horse shot under him. He was forced to travel by foot through the mountains to the Kanawha River and then on to Parkersburg, W. Va. While on his second enlistment he was shipped back to Washington, and saw service on the Potomac River, and when General Lee surrendered he again went to Washington, then went to Parkersburg, W. Va., took a transport down the Ohio River to the Mississippi and up the Missouri to Fort Leavenworth, where Mr. Snyder was once more incapacitated with an attack of typhoid fever. His regiment left, but he recovered in time to accompany the Seventh W. Va. Cavalry, and at Fort Collins, Colo., joined his own command. During his service Mr. Snyder held the rank of sergeant, orderly sergeant and sergeant-major, and was acting adjutant of the regiment, which rank he held at Fort Collins, Colo., and at the time of his final honorable discharge from the service, June 30, 1866, was lieutenant of cavalry. His war record was an excellent one, and at all times he bore himself in a brave and soldierly manner.

After the close of his military service Mr. Snyder again returned to his home, but in September, 1867, came to the West and located at Rockton, Ill., which has continued to be his home to the present time. Here he learned the trade of painting and decorating, and in 1868 started into business on his own account, remaining alone until 1913, when he admitted as partner, C. L. Stiles, who continues with him. They have a large and lucrative business which has been developed through the medium of honest workmanship and fidelity to contracts. A Republican in his political views, he has been frequently called upon to serve in public office, and has been constable and township collector, deputy sheriff under Sheriff Frank F. Peats, supervisor seven years, county treasurer of Winnebago County for a term of four years from November, 1894, and at present a member of the Rockton city board, where he is chairman of the finance committee and a member of other committees. His public service has been characterized by strict adherence to duty and an earnest desire to do things for his community and its people. Mr. Snyder is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, Grand Army of the Republic, while his wife was a member of the Women's Relief Corps. She was also connected with the Order of the Eastern Star, and White Shrine, to which her husband belongs. Mr. Snyder is well known in

fraternal circles, belonging to Lodge No. 74, A. F. & A. M., and Chapter No. 190, R. A. M., both of Rockton; Crusader Commandery, K. T., of Rockford, and Tubela Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., also of Rockford.

On November 18, 1869, Mr. Snyder was married to Miss Cora L. Stiles, who was born at Rockton, Ill., and died July 17, 1915. She was a daughter of Erastus L. and Marantha (Capron) Stiles, the former born at Gibson, Pa., and the latter at Hartford, Pa. Mr. Stiles was born August 8, 1820, a son of George and Elizabeth (Lincoln) Stiles. Miss Lincoln was a relative of Abraham Lincoln. Erastus L. Stiles and his wife came to Illinois soon after their marriage, locating at Pecatonica, where Mr. Stiles engaged in shoemaking. In 1856 he was appointed the first agent at Rockton for the Racine & Mississippi Railroad, now the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. It was in Rockton that both Mr. and Mrs. Stiles passed their declining years and died. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder had the following children: Alma F., who is the wife of George Scott, of Rockford; Murray S., a resident of Chicago; Cora Alta, who died at the age of two years; Minnie Lee, who married Ward S. Gregory, of Guilford Township, Winnebago County; Roy N., who died at the age of sixteen years; and Luetta, deceased, who was the wife of David Guilfoil, a conductor on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, who, with his two daughters lives at the home of Mr. Snyder, at Rockton.

SODERGREN, George, is a man whose association with the Rockford Frame & Fixture Company, both as a stockholder and as silverer, gives it added solidity, for he is recognized as an expert in his line, as well as a man of keen business judgment and unquestioned integrity. He was born at Rockford, June 28, 1877, and here educated. His first connection with the business world was established through a real estate office, and he maintained it for some time, and then went with the Rockford Mitten & Hosiery Company, leaving it for the Nelson Knitting Company, and in 1902 he entered the employ of his present company as a silverer. Mr. Sodergren has charge of the making of mirrors and probably there is no man in the business who excels him and few are his equals. In 1914 Mr. Sodergren bought stock in the company, thus proving his faith in the future of the concern and its value as an investment.

Mr. Sodergren is unmarried, and resides with his mother at No. 919 Second avenue. He belongs to the order of Moose. In politics he is independent, preferring to form his own opinions, and gives his support to his individual choice, rather than be guided entirely by party lines. Industrious and thrifty, Mr. Sodergren has forged to the front in his line and stands very well with his associates.

SOHNER, Edward, a prosperous retired farmer of Owen Township, whose success as an agriculturalist has been due to intelligent effort on his part, coupled with natural ability for his work,

was born in Germany, April 28, 1834, being a son of Joseph and Mary (Hartman) Sohner, natives of Germany who never left their native land. The father gave his country military service, and after it was completed, he settled down as a farmer. His death occurred in 1872 when he was seventy-two years old.

Edward Sohner spent his boyhood in Germany, where he attended the public schools, but when he was seventeen years old he came to the United States, and lived in New York City for a short time. He then came to Owen Township, Winnebago County, Ill., arriving here in 1855, and until 1859 he worked among the farmers by the month. In the latter year he bought sixty-five acres of land in Owen Township, and added to it until he owned 155 acres, on which he lived until 1900 when he rented his property, retired and moved to Rockford, where he bought a comfortable residence at No. 1303 School street which continues to be his home. He started in life without means, and has earned all he possesses. In the early days he was recognized as the best man with a grain cradle in Owen Township, and his services were in great demand for a number of years. He worked a good deal for Calvin Haskell, who appreciated him.

Mr. Sohner was married in 1860 to Rosina Wieland, born in Germany, September 8, 1838, daughter of Henry and Mary (Shrine) Wieland, and they have five children as follows: Laura McNeillage, Harriet Halley, Frank, Mary Smith and George. There are nineteen grandchildren in the family. Mr. Sohner is a Republican. The Methodist Church holds his membership and he enjoys his connection with it, giving his warm support to its good work.

SPAFFORD, Amos Catlin. Winnebago County owes much to the efforts of its earlier settlers who united natural ability with a farsightedness that enabled them to look forward into the future and laid the foundations for a civilization of which the ordinary person in those times never dreamed. Among these representative citizens of another day must be mentioned the late Amos Catlin Spafford of Rockford, business man, banker and public spirited citizen. He was born at Adams, N. Y., September 14, 1824, a son of Dr. John and Lucy (Moore) Spafford.

When he was fourteen years old Amos C. Spafford came to Winnebago County with his brother-in-law, Col. Jason Marsh, and located on Oak Grove farm. They arrived here in September, 1839, having made the trip by steam boat, canal boat and stage coach. At Chicago they came up with Charles and Thomas Marsh, and the remainder of the trip was made in a lumber wagon. From 1839 to 1846, Mr. Spafford spent the time on the above mentioned farm. Produce was hauled to Chicago, the only market available. The farmers then received fifty cents a bushel for wheat; \$1.50 per hundred weight for pork and other prices accordingly. For the four years succeeding 1846, Mr. Spafford was engaged in a mercantile business at Rockford, and in 1848, he with others built a sawmill and

with it made the first attempt to utilize the water power furnished by Rock River. Enthused by the accounts of fortunes to be gained in the gold fields of California, Mr. Spafford became an argonaut himself, leaving for Sacramento, Cal., on March 25, 1850, which was also his wedding day. For two years he was in the gold fields, and then returned to Rockford and the bride he had left behind him. In 1854 he established himself in a banking business at Rockford, under the firm name of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield. In 1864, he was one of the men who organized the Third National Bank of Rockford and was made its president, and held that position until his death August 22, 1897. Mr. Spafford was a well educated man having attended the schools of Adams, Black River Institute at Watertown, N. Y., and for one year studied at Castletown, Vt. He furnished capital and helped to build the Kenosha & Rockford Railroad, and in other ways demonstrated his public spirit. His advice was sought and he was honored by all who recognized his worth. The First Congregational Church of Rockford was built largely through his efforts.

On March 25, 1850, Mr. Spafford was married to Elizabeth Burns White. She was born at Peterboro, N. H., June 21, 1827, a daughter of Robert and Ruth (Burns) White, natives of New Hampshire. Mrs. Spafford came to Winnebago County in 1845. She died May 22, 1898. She and her husband had the following children: Isabell, who married James Archibald, had one child, Elizabeth, and died July 14, 1901; Lucy Antoinette, who is Mrs. James M. Staggers of Los Angeles, Cal.; Jessie I., who resides on the home place; George C., who is president of the Third National Bank of Rockford. The family is one of the best known and most highly respected of the county.

SPAFFORD BROTHERS, page 659.

SPAFFORD, Charles Henry, deceased, was for many years one of the leading financiers of Winnebago County. He was born at Adams, Jefferson County, N. Y., January 5, 1818, and was the eldest son of Dr. John and Lucy (Moore) Spafford, the former a prominent physician and surgeon of Adams, N. Y. The other children were: Harriet, who married Col. Jason Marsh, John, and Amos Catlin.

Charles Henry Spafford received a collegiate education at Castleton, Vt., where he prepared to follow the profession of law, but deciding to come West, the current of his life was changed. In 1839 Mr. Spafford came to Rockford in company with a friend, Volney A. Marsh, making the trip by way of the canals and lakes to Chicago. Here they secured a conveyance which took them to Joliet, where they remained a short time, and then concluded to take a direct route to Rockford, which place Mr. Spafford decided to make his future home. He went back to his old home in New York a little later, returning to Rockford in 1840 in company with his brother-

ers, John and Catlin, and his brother-in-law, Jason Marsh.

The four young men purchased land which is now known as the Grove Farm, a mile and a quarter south of Rockford and beautifully situated on the east side of Rock River, which they cultivated and were very successful. But Mr. Spafford was not a man to be held to any one line. He moved to Rockford and soon became interested in many valuable enterprises, and aided greatly in the development and upbuilding of the city. He was one of the promoters of the Rockford Female Seminary (now known as Rockford College) which was organized in 1848. He was elected the first secretary and clerk of the executive committee and was one of the first directors of that institution. At a critical time in the formation period Charles H. Spafford, Eleazer H. Potter and Dr. Dexter Clark mortgaged their homes, raising a sum large enough to insure the success of the college, which but for the self-sacrifice of these men would have ceased to exist. Mr. Spafford never lost his interest in this school, for which he had labored so faithfully in his younger days. He held many prominent positions within the gift of his fellow townsmen; he was elected circuit clerk and recorder, which office he held ten years, and was appointed postmaster under President Tyler, and later during President Grant's administration. He was always active in political affairs, at the same time being a careful and conscientious business man.

In the fifties Mr. Spafford was engaged in the banking business, the firm name being Spafford, Clark and Ellis. He was president and general manager of the Kenosha and Rockford Railroad for a number of years. The Commercial Block on West State street was erected by Mr. Spafford, and in company with others, he built the Metropolitan Hall block, also the block now known as the Chick House. For a number of years he held large lumber interests in Michigan.

On March 8, 1842, Mr. Spafford was united in marriage to Miss Abby Warren, a native of Hartland, Me., and a daughter of Joseph Warren, son of Dr. John Warren, who was surgeon-general in Washington's army, and a brother of General Joseph Warren, of Bunker Hill fame. Joseph Warren, the father of Mrs. Spafford, received his education at Cambridge, Mass. Mrs. Spafford's mother was Miss Abigail Whittier, a native of New Hampshire and descendant of the same family as was John G. Whittier, the poet. Mrs. Spafford was also descended from Governor John Collins, the last colonial governor of Rhode Island. She was educated in the East, and upon her settlement in Rockford, became prominent in the social and religious life of this place. Of the four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Spafford, one, Mary, died in childhood at the age of nine years; Carrie, (wife of Frederick E. Brett of Boston, Mass.) died in 1911; Charles H., Jr., died in 1908. The surviving daughter, Eugenia, is the wife of Charles H. Godfrey, of this city. Mr. Spafford died September 9, 1892,

at the age of seventy-four years, and on July 19, 1901, his wife followed him to the great beyond.

Mr. Spafford was modest and unassuming, a man of broad sympathies, and to the many appeals for help which came to him, he was ever ready to listen and render assistance. Many young men of Rockford and vicinity were given their financial start in life by this kindly gentleman. The First Congregational Church (of which he was a founder) had in him a generous member. He belonged to the Masonic Order from early manhood.

SPAFFORD, Jessie I. Some of the most cultured and highly educated women in the state are to be found at Rockford, the institutions of learning at this point attracting and holding them, and through their efforts a number of philanthropic and educational movements have been organized and carried out to a satisfactory conclusion. One of these progressive, intelligent and capable women whose name is closely associated with much of the civic and educational work of the city and county, is Miss Jessie I. Spafford. She was born at Rockford, a daughter of Amos Catlin and Elizabeth Burns (White) Spafford, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

Miss Spafford early displayed unusual ability and after she had passed through the grade and high schools of Rockford, she attended Vassar College, the University of Chicago, the University of Wisconsin, and the Polytechnic Institute at Zurich, Switzerland. Having thus carefully prepared herself for her work, she returned to Rockford and for twenty-one years was an instructor at Rockford College, being head of the department of mathematics and physics. Her attention was early called to the necessity for concerted action on the part of the women of Rockford, to bring about some much needed reforms, and she has been president of the Woman's Club and the Boys' Club Association for some years. She is a member of the Winnebago County Anti-Tuberculosis Association, the Welfare Association, and other organizations. A close student, she goes into every subject thoroughly before taking action, and her judgment and experience are relied upon by those with whom she is associated.

SPARKS, Will Carlton, vice president and general manager of the Rockford & Interurban Railroad Company of Rockford, is a man of large ideas and capabilities, a man who has shown himself able to handle the multiple problems daily presented for his consideration, in an efficient and satisfactory manner. He was born at Muncie, Ind., June 6, 1877, a son of Lewis S. and Mary (Orr) Sparks. The father was born in West Virginia, and the mother in Muncie, Ind. When he was only six years old, the father was brought to Selma, Ind., and was there educated. For some years he was engaged in teaching school, but later embarked in a grain and elevator business, and also handled coal. Investing in farm lands in Delaware

County, Ind., he became interested in operating them, but is now living retired. His wife also survives. Her people were extensive farmers. In politics the father is a Republican.

In addition to attending the schools of Muncie and Selma, Ind., Will Carlton Sparks went to the Indiana University at Bloomington, Ind., and was graduated therefrom in 1901. He was appointed a teacher for the United States Government in the Philippine Islands, and spent two years there, when he returned to Anderson, Ind., and became chief clerk in the engineering department of the Union Traction Company. Subsequently he became superintendent of construction and still later superintendent of railroads, finally being made chief engineer, remaining with that company for eight years. He then moved to Rockford, to accept his present position, and his management of affairs proves that his present company showed excellent judgment in securing his services.

On June 16, 1901, Mr. Sparks married Miss Margaret L. Allen, a daughter of Judge H. Clay Allen. His bride accompanied him to the Philippines. Mr. and Mrs. Sparks have had three children, namely: Allen Louis, who was born in 1904; Will C., Jr., who was born in 1913; and Mary Elizabeth, who was born in 1915. Mr. Sparks belongs to the Elks. He is interested along building lines at Rockford, and can be counted to give his hearty support to any measure calculated to advance the material welfare of his community.

SPAULDING, Daniel G. A man who proved his worth as a factor in the business life of Rockford, as well as a supporter of the city's civic interests, was the late Daniel G. Spaulding, who never failed to respond ably to every demand made upon him, and is remembered with respect by those with whom he was associated. He was born at Acworth, N. H., November 25, 1839, a son of Nehemiah and Betsy (Hayward) Spaulding, of New Hampshire. The father was a physician who emigrated to Iowa in 1851, where he practiced medicine.

In 1857 David G. Spaulding came to Rockford, and afterward, until his death, cast his lot with this city. When the country had need of his services, in the Civil war, he enlisted as a member of Company I, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, at Rockford, and was mustered out as a first lieutenant, serving four years. During the struggle that followed his enlistment he participated in all the battles in which his regiment engaged, and when the war was over, in 1865, he enlisted in the regular army, at Chicago, as a first lieutenant. His detachment was sent into the more western states to subdue the Indians and settle difficulties arising from Mormon troubles, and after three years of active service, he was mustered out, and returned to Rockford. Here he was severally engaged as a shoe merchant and a grocer, and was remarkably successful in all his undertakings. Later on in life he retired, and at the time of his death, April 9, 1902, was

not engaged in an active life. He was a Republican, and represented the Seventh Ward in the city council, and was also a member of the board of supervisors, and in both offices sustained his reputation for sound business sense and principles. Fraternally he was a Mason and an Odd Fellow, and he also belonged to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., seldom being absent from the camp fires, as he took a deep interest in the work of the post.

David G. Spaulding was married (first) in 1858, to Priscilla Smith, and they had one son, now deceased. On January 8, 1872, Mr. Spaulding was married (second) to Sophia Rannie, born in Aberdeen, Scotland, a daughter of William and Christina (Gibb) Rannie, who in 1860 came to Rockford. Prior to the outbreak of the Civil war, Mr. Rannie was engaged in farming, but seeing an opening for a restaurant at Rockford, established himself in that line. Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding had one daughter, Louise, who is now Mrs. Charles C. Scovill and resides with her widowed mother at No. 404 North Court street.

Mrs. Spaulding is a charter member of the Woman's Relief Corps, and served as president of the Rockford branch for four years, having a very successful administration. In 1892 she was elected state or department president of the Relief Corps of Rock Island, Ill., and held that office for a year, as well as other offices of the order, and her daughter is also a member and active worker, being her mother's secretary during her incumbency of the presidency. She has also been state secretary and state treasurer. Both ladies belong to the Woman's Club of Rockford. Mrs. Spaulding is a Presbyterian, while Mrs. Scovill is an Episcopalian. The latter was married February 10, 1903, to Charles C. Scovill, born at Rockford. He is connected with the freight and passenger departments of the Illinois Central Railroad at Rockford, and is a very enterprising young man.

SPENCER, Douglas W., senior member of the reliable firm of Douglas W. Spencer & Son, proprietors of the Rockford Welding Company, is one of the pioneers in his line at Rockford, and one of the city's reliable men. He was born in Cherry Valley, Otsego County, N. Y., March 28, 1833. When he was only ten years old he left school, which was of the subscription type of his time, and began picking berries and doing chores for farmers in order to become self-supporting. For his services he received \$13 per month, his father taking his wages until he attained his majority.

On October 15, 1852, Douglas W. Spencer was married to Elizabeth Hamilton of New York, and began farming, continuing thus for two years, when he moved to Cherry Valley, N. Y., where he continued his agricultural occupations for a year, and then for one year was employed in teaming by T. C. Bates. He then located on his father-in-law's farm and worked for three years. In 1864 he came to Winnebago County, Ill., and

spent two months at Big Bottom, then came to Rockford and rented a house on Church street for which he paid \$5 per month rent. In the meanwhile he worked at whatever offered, earning about \$2 per day, and saved his money. In 1869 he went to Iowa and engaged in farming until 1872 when he returned to Rockford and worked on Charles Spafford's farm for four years. He then went into a milk business and conducted it for twenty-two years, when he originated the idea of delivering milk to the city residences. This proved so popular that he adopted it and continued in this business for twenty-two years, until 1897. His customers felt so grateful to him for his faithful services that in 1898 they made him a substantial present. After retiring from his milk business he lived retired for a year, and then for a year trimmed lamps for the light company. He then spent eight months in some of the more northern states, when he returned to Rockford and for a short time was engaged in carpentering and similar work. In 1910 he and his son, William D., founded their present business, and have developed it into a profitable undertaking.

By his first wife Mr. Spencer had the following children: Lizzie, who married C. P. Doane of California; Lena, who married Frank Dresbach; Jessie, who married Samuel Hall of Rockford; and Anna, who died at the age of twelve years. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Spencer married (second) Harriet Winters, and they had two children: William D., who married Anna Dennis, has two children, Douglas W. and William D.; and Myrtle B., who married Frederick Travers of Detroit, Mich. Mrs. Spencer died in 1905. He has served as a school director but aside from that has held no political office. He owns some valuable property and his residence at No. 1026 Rockton avenue.

SPENCER, William D. Rockford is the home of some of the most flourishing manufacturing plants which have been developed from small beginnings to present prosperous conditions through the energy, foresight and natural ability of the alert men who own them. One of the concerns that is counted among the reliable and substantial ones of this locality is that conducted by William D. Spencer and his father Douglas W. Spencer, as the Rockford Welding Company at No. 1026 Rockton avenue.

William D. Spencer was born at Rockford, February 5, 1880, a son of Douglas W. and Harriet (Winters) Spencer, natives of New York and Rockford. He was educated in the excellent schools of Rockford, and began his business career as a machinist and worked in the various plants at Rockford until he became a brakeman on the Illinois Central Railroad and later a fireman. After two years, in 1910, he and his father founded their present business upon a small scale. The thoroughness and expertness of father and son were soon recognized, and the firm now does a very large business in welding and repair work of all kinds. The experience of both partners comes into excellent

play for their line of work is exceedingly important in a manufacturing city. Skilled and accommodating, William D. Spencer is rapidly forging to the head in his particular line, and in every way stands very high in his community.

William D. Spencer was married January 25, 1907, to Anna Dennis, of Cleveland, Ohio. They have two children, Douglas W., and William Douglas.

SPOTTSWOOD, Robert, whose progressive efforts in behalf of his community have been exerted in the business field offered by the village of Winnebago, was born at Lisbon, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., September 21, 1846, a son of Robert and Mary C. (Graham) Spottswood, natives of Roxburyshire and Dumfries, Scotland, respectively. The paternal grandparents came to the United States about 1834, and located in the state of New York, while the maternal grandparents, James and Catherine Graham, settled in Canada about 1828. After their marriage, Robert Spottswood and wife lived in St. Lawrence County until 1851, when they moved to Kemptville, Greenville County, Canada, where they remained until 1867, but in that year they came to Westfield Corners, Winnebago County, Ill., where he conducted a blacksmithing shop for a number of years. They had a family of nine children, three of whom died in infancy, the others being as follows: Mary C., who died in 1903, for eighteen years taught in the Rockford public schools; Catherine, who married Robert Simpson; Jennie, who married Edwin Ware; and Elizabeth, Margaret and Robert. The father died in 1900, in his eighty-first year, and the mother died in July, 1904, aged eighty-five years.

Robert Spottswood, Jr., was educated in the public schools of Canada, and coming to Winnebago County with his parents in 1867, worked with his father at the blacksmithing trade until he located in the village of Winnebago, in 1883, since which time he has been operating a lumber and grain business. He was instrumental in organizing the Winnebago Lumber Company, and his entire time and attention are absorbed in the management of its affairs. The company has been developed until a large business is controlled, and it is the leading commercial interest of the locality.

On June 30, 1875, Mr. Spottswood was married to Miss Eleanor F. Ellis, a daughter of William and Justina (Abbott) Ellis, pioneers of Winnebago County. Mr. Ellis died at Byron, Ill., in December, 1903, aged ninety-six years. He was a man of consequence in the county, having at different times owned property at Rockford, and a valuable farm, and enjoyed the entire confidence of his associates. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis had three daughters and two sons, namely: Mrs. Spottswood; Harriet, who married Labra C. Spoor; Adelaide J., who married David J. Simpson; Fred W., who resides in the state of Washington; and one who is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Spottswood have had two children, namely: M. Justina, who was for several years

a teacher in the public schools of Rockford, later marrying Harry M. Robins of Detroit, Mich., both of them having been graduated from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Mich.; and Ralph B., who is assistant cashier of the Forest City Bank, of Rockford.

For a period exceeding thirty years Mr. Spottswood has been one of the leading business men of Winnebago, and is also prominent fraternally, belonging to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of the Globe. Politically he is an independent Democrat. He is a notary public, and has held various local offices, including those of justice of the peace, township treasurer and supervisor, at the present time being the incumbent of the last named office. A man of uprightness, he has lived up to the responsibilities of his life, and stands very high in public esteem.

SPRAGUE, Mrs. Mary L. (Ames), is one of the best examples of the self-reliant, capable and intelligent business women Rockford has produced. Her example of making use of her talents, together with broad sympathy, has been helpful to others. She was born in Marion Township, Ogle County, Ill., in 1859, a daughter of Warren E. and Giddy (Vine) Ames. The parents were born at Syracuse, N. Y., where they married, later moving to Ogle County, Ill., where they lived on a farm in Marion Township for some years. Subsequently they went to Byron, Ill., and still later to Scott Township, Ogle County. Finally they went to Greene County, Iowa, where the father died December 8, 1905, the mother having passed away in 1869. The father married Margaret Kennedy for his second wife, who survives and makes her home at Valley Junction, Iowa. The children born to the parents of Mrs. Sprague were as follows: George, who resides at Petersburg, Ill.; Henry and Alva, who are deceased; Mrs. Sprague; Ella, who is Mrs. Chester Whitmore, of David City, Neb.; and Harriet, who died at the age of three years. By his second marriage the father had two children, namely: Charles W., who lives at Oskaloosa, Iowa, and John, who resides at Valley Junction, Iowa.

Mrs. Sprague attended the public schools of her vicinity, and leaving the high school when she was sixteen years old began to be self-supporting by teaching school, at Byron, Ill. On September 15, 1881, she was married to George W. Sprague, born at Memphis, Tenn., February 22, 1859, and they moved to Rockford, where for two years he was with the Utter Manufacturing Company, and then was associated with a Mr. Ginders for nine years in a livery business. Their children were as follows: Nellie, who is Mrs. Roy G. Fickett, of Rockford, has two children, Olive and Lewis; Lawrence M., who resides at Rockford, married Lula Arnold; and Ethel L., who lives with her mother at No. 314 N. Fourth street, Rockford.

Since 1885 Mrs. Sprague has employed her energies and talents in doing fine and artistic dressmaking, and many of the leading women

of the city depend upon her for their finest clothing. Her business is a large one, and her skill is recognized and appreciated. Mrs. Sprague has belonged to the Baptist Church since 1872, and is a valued worker in the local church. A lady of high character, and determined personality, she is held in much esteem by all who know her.

STAPLETON, Vincent, superintendent of the Illinois School Furniture Company, with residence at No. 425 Peach street, is one of the skilled and experienced men of Rockford, and one in whom implicit trust is placed by those who know and appreciate his abilities. He was born in Sheffield, England, November 17, 1870.

In 1898 Mr. Stapleton came to the United States from Canada, to which he had been taken by his parents in 1879. His educational training was obtained in Canada, and there he began working in furniture factories. Later he was employed in a furniture factory at Grand Rapids, Mich., and also at Edinburg, Ind., Milwaukee, Wis., Minneapolis, Minn., Mebane, N. C., Nashville, Tenn., Owensboro, Ky., New Decatur, Ala., and Bowling Green, Ky., and then became a commercial traveler for a varnish company, remaining on the road for about a year. He then located at Sanford, N. C., but went back to Owensboro, Ky., and from there came to Rockford, arriving in this city March 4, 1912, and assumed his present duties. He had been superintendent of nearly all the factories with which he was connected, so brought to his new work a trained knowledge and wide experience that have made him very successful. He is a stockholder in this company, and a man of means.

Mr. Stapleton has been married twice, and had the following children born to his first union: George, Etra, Emily and Floyvela, all of whom are at home. In October, 1908, Mr. Stapleton was married (second) in North Carolina, to Miss C. Limberry.

STARR, Chandler, cashier of the Winnebago National Bank of Rockford, is a man whose standing in his community makes his connection with this institution a strong factor in determining its business policies. He is a favored native son of Rockford, Ill., where he was born April 27, 1851, a son of Melancthon and Lucretia (Nevin) Starr. The father came to Winnebago County from New York City, in 1850, and established himself in a general store on the corner of State and Main streets, where he did a flourishing business for three years. Then selling, he formed a partnership with Thomas D. Robertson, under the style of Robertson & Starr, for the purpose of continuing the private banking business founded in 1848 by Messrs. Robertson and Holland, and was connected with it until his demise in 1888. The mother died in 1859.

Chandler Starr was reared at Rockford, and after attending its common and high schools, took a special course at Willetton Seminary, at East Hampton, Mass. Returning to Rockford,

he was night clerk at the old Holland House for a time, and then went with C. W. Brown & Co. Leaving the latter firm, he entered the bank of which his father was part owner, as an office boy, and has worked himself up from that position to his present responsible one, his connection with the bank extending over a period of forty-five years. He is now president of the Clearing House Association, and a man of the highest standing in every respect. The Elks hold his fraternal connection, while his religious home is the Second Congregational Church of Rockford.

On January 1, 1874, Mr. Starr was married to Blanch Ellis, a daughter of Col. F. W. and Lucy (Dobbins) Ellis. Mr. and Mrs. Starr have one daughter, who married W. S. Miller, assistant cashier of the Peoples Banking and Trust Company of Rockford.

STARR, Melancthon. The name of Starr is associated with the financial history of Winnebago County, for members of this honored family have been in the banking business here for over half a century. The founder of the family in Winnebago County was Melancthon Starr, whose career at Rockford was marked by a broad minded policy that did much to lay the sound foundations of the Winnebago National Bank with which he was associated for so many years. He was born at Albany, N. Y., April 14, 1816, a son of Chandler and Hannah (Smith) Starr, and grandson of Peter and Hannah (Robbins) Starr, the former, born at Bridgeport, Conn., in September, 1744, was a Congregational minister for seventy-seven years. Chandler Starr was born at Warren, Conn., January 11, 1791, and his wife was born in New Jersey in 1795. The Starr ancestry is traced back to Captain Josiah Starr, who was born September 1, 1657, at Charlestown, Mass. Chandler Starr died in Connecticut, and his wife died in the same state in 1866.

Melancthon Starr was educated at Albany, N. Y., attending its public schools, and the Albany Academy. His business career commenced when he became a clerk in a wholesale dry goods house in 1839, and in 1840 he left New York state for Tallahassee, Fla., where he embarked in a mercantile business and handled cotton as a Factor. The conditions of slavery, however, made it impossible for him to continue there, so in three years he returned to New York state, and he was in a Wall street bank as cashier until 1850, when he came to Rockford, and opened a mercantile establishment. With Mr. Robertson, he founded the firm of Robertson and Starr, and they continued the banking business which later was incorporated as the Winnebago National Bank, he becoming its vice president, and held that office at the time of his death, November 28, 1885.

Mr. Starr was married to Lucretia Mary (Nevins), born in 1817, at Norwich, Conn., and they had the following children: Henry N., who resides at Rockford; Florida L., who is deceased; Elizabeth, who married Charles W. Brown, is deceased and so is her husband; Chandler, cash-

ier of the Winnebago National Bank, Rockford, married Blanch Ellis, a daughter of Col. Ellis, who was killed on the battlefield during one of the engagements of the Civil war; David N., who lives at Clearwater, Fla.; and Lucretia M., who lives at Rockford. Mrs. Starr died April 26, 1857. Mr. Starr was married (second) to Ellen Marilla Townsend on August 5, 1861, at Great Barrington, Mass. She was born in Massachusetts, January 13, 1834, a daughter of Cyrus and Murilla (Merritt) Townsend, natives of Monterey and Otis, Mass. Mr. Townsend died in Massachusetts in 1842, and his widow moved to Rockford, Ill., in 1880, and died there in 1891. There were no children by Mr. Starr's second marriage. Mrs. Starr resides at Rockford, her home being on North Church street. She is a member of the Century Club, and has belonged to the Women's Christian Temperance Union since 1874. Mr. Starr was a Unitarian, and earlier in life was a Republican, but during his later years was a strong Prohibitionist, and was one of the strong advocates of St. John, candidate of the Prohibition party for president. Among other public-spirited measures with which Mr. Starr was connected was the founding of the public library at Rockford, and he was among the first contributors to a fund for that purpose. He was also very much interested in securing distinguished men to deliver lectures at Rockford, from the Lyceum bureau, among them being Wendell Phillips, Thomas Starr King, and many others of equal prominence whose names were, at the time of their appearance at Rockford, household words. (See page 664.)

STENLUND, William, general superintendent of the Forest City Knitting Company, with residence at No. 816 S. Third street, is one of the men who has noticeably come to the front in the industrial world of Rockford, and proven himself a skilled workman and reliable citizen. He was born in Sweden, March 23, 1875, and there attended what corresponds to the high school in this country, being graduated therefrom. He then worked on his father's farm until he was seventeen years old, at which time, in 1893, he came to the United States. At first he located at Minneapolis, Minn., and for a time worked as bookkeeper for J. H. Hayes & Company, later being made their general superintendent, and remained with them for eight years. Leaving Minneapolis for Rockford, Mr. Stenlund engaged with the Nelson people as shipping clerk, later being made foreman, and in 1904 was made general superintendent of the Forest City Knitting Company, which is owned and controlled by the Nelsons. Here his practical worth and ability to govern men is recognized and materially appreciated.

Mr. Stenlund was married at Rockford June 12, 1903, to Marie C. Oberg, born in this city. They have one son,—Mark William. Mr. Stenlund belongs to the Moose, Owls, S. M. and S. F. A Republican in politics he has been alderman from his ward for four years, and is a man of undoubted influence among his asso-

ciates, especially those of his own nationality. Steadfast, industrious, sound in his judgment, and reliable in his actions, Mr. Stenlund stands well with his company and his men, and deserves the prosperity which has attended his efforts.

STENVALL, John A., a retired merchant of Rockford, who at one time was a potent factor in the commercial life of this city, was born in Sweden, October 19, 1851, a son of John and Annie (Johnson) Anderson. His parents were natives of Sweden, and farming people. After the death of the father, the mother came to the United States with her son John A., in 1869, and they located at Rockford, where she died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Seger, in 1890, aged sixty-eight years.

John A. Stenvall attended the public schools of Sweden until seventeen years old, at which time he came with his mother to the United States, and after his arrival at Rockford, he worked during his first year for farmers in the county. Later he engaged with the Emerson-Talcott Manufacturing Company, but a year later went with the Trahern Pump Company and remained with that concern for fifteen years. At the expiration of that time he opened a grocery store at the corner of Fourteenth avenue and Seventh street with J. B. Swanson as a partner. This association continued for five years, and then Mr. Stenvall went into business for himself on the same street, and conducted a grocery business for nineteen years. In 1915 he retired from active life.

In 1875 Mr. Stenvall was married to Wilhelmina Holmquist, a daughter of P. J. Holmquist of Sweden. Mrs. Stenvall died April 23, 1893, and is buried in the Scandinavian Cemetery. They became the parents of five children: Mrs. Arthur Rohlen, whose husband is with the Swedish-American National Bank of Rockford; Mrs. Wallace Hobart, who lives at No. 416 Catlin street, Rockford; Elmer W., who lives at Sioux City, Iowa; Oscar T., who is manager of the Model Laundry of Rockford; and Mrs. Harry Stongberg, whose husband is a druggist, lives at No. 416 Catlin street, Rockford; and two who died in infancy.

Mr. Stenvall in politics is a Republican and was a member of the board of supervisors for ten years, and is at present chairman of the education committee. He is a member of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford and has been a deacon for thirty years and Sunday School superintendent for many years. A most estimable man, he has done his full duty as he saw it, and is highly respected.

STERLING, Fred E., editor of the Rockford Daily Register-Gazette, was born at Dixon, Ill., June 29, 1869, being the third son of Edward and Irene Bivins Sterling, early settlers of that section. The first ten years of his boyhood were spent in Dixon, where he attended the public schools until 1880, when his parents removed to Huron, S. D., and settled on a farm near that

place. They were among the pioneers of Central Dakota (then a territory), the subject of this sketch assisting his father and brothers in developing one of the first farms in Beadle County, which was widely known as the "Sunflower Ranch." He attended the public schools at Huron during the winter terms and worked on his father's farm during the summer until the age of fourteen, when he entered newspaper work as a reporter with the Huron Daily Times, which avocation he has since followed, with the exception of two years, 1901-2, when he served, under appointment of the Circuit court, as receiver of the Manufacturers' & Merchants Mutual Insurance Company, of Rockford, winding up its affairs, paying all loss claims in full and receiving his discharge within two years.

Mr. Sterling, in his boyhood, was constantly thrown in contact with men of more mature years than himself, socially, politically and in a business way, in the development of the Territory and thus acquired a knowledge which the schools could not have given him and which has proved useful in the years since. On the promotion of Judge Louis K. Church, of Huron, to the governorship of Dakota, Mr. Sterling, who in spite of his youth had been his close friend and companion, was appointed to the position of assistant commissioner of immigration, in which capacity he had much to do with the preparation and distribution of literature and statistics extolling the wonders of the Territory, resulting in its rapid settlement by homeseekers from the eastern states. Near the close of his term of office he resigned this position to accept the editorship of the Dakota edition of the St. Paul Globe, a supplement issued with the daily each Saturday and devoted to the interests of the Territory. In 1890 he came to Rockford to accept the city editorship of the Morning Star, which paper he served for a year and left to take a similar position with the Register-Gazette on the consolidation of the two afternoon newspapers. He assumed the editorship of the Register-Gazette on October 1, 1903.

Ever since he became a resident of Rockford Mr. Sterling has taken an active, aggressive part in the political, social and business life of the city and lent his hearty assistance to every movement looking to its progress, welfare and upbuilding. For ten years he represented the old Third Ward in the city council, enjoying the distinction of being the youngest man ever elected as an alderman in this city. In the spring of 1903 he retired from the council, because of other conflicting duties, declining a unanimous caucus renomination. He secured the Blake school building for his ward, together with many other improvements, served for three years as secretary of the Board of Local Improvements and on his retirement from the council was presented by his friends with a handsome diamond ring, which is still the only jewelry worn by him.

Mr. Sterling is a staunch Republican and has taken an active part in county and state politics.

He has been a delegate to many state conventions and in 1912 was a Roosevelt delegate to the Republican National convention in Chicago, serving as secretary of the Illinois delegation. For many years he was a member of and secretary of the Winnebago County Republican Central committee, later being chairman for several terms. He resigned from the county committee when, in the primary of 1914, he was elected a member of the Republican State Central committee for the Twelfth congressional district, which position he still holds. In the presidential and gubernatorial campaign of 1900 he was secretary and manager of the press bureau conducted by the Republican State committee, supplying party literature and statistics to the country press. In 1901 he was appointed by Gov. Richard Yates as land commissioner of the Illinois & Michigan canal and during the legislative session of 1903 served as a secretary to the chief executive at Springfield.

In 1904 Mr. Sterling was appointed by Gov. Yates as a member of the board of managers of the Illinois State Reformatory, continuing in this capacity under the two terms of Gov. Deneen, until June, 1912, when he was appointed by the latter as secretary of the State Board of Arbitration. His resignation of this position was tendered promptly on the inauguration of Gov. Dunne, in January, 1913, but was not accepted for six months. In 1908 Mr. Sterling was a candidate in the primary for the Republican nomination for secretary of state and in a large field of candidates received the support of over 70,000 voters throughout the state. He enjoys an extensive acquaintance with and the friendship of a host of prominent citizens and politicians, of both parties, throughout the state. Mr. Sterling is a member of the Masons, Elks, Knights of Pythias, Royal League, Modern Woodmen, Loyal Order of Moose and the Hamilton Club, of Chicago.

On December 17, 1891, Mr. Sterling was married to Miss Anna C. Parmele and two children have blessed the union, Arthur Edward, who graduated from Dartmouth College in June, 1915, and Olive Irene, now a student at Vassar College. His home is at 1008 North Main street.

STEVENS, George A. The birth of George A. Stevens occurred at New Brunswick, N. J., August 31, 1858. He came to Winnebago County, Ill., in July, 1877, and ten years thereafter, on April 21, 1887, he was married to Amelia B. Whittle, a daughter of Frederick and Matilda (Beers) Whittle.

Frederick Whittle was born in Ontario, Canada, September 5, 1818, and came to Illinois about 1840, locating in Guilford Township, Winnebago County, Ill. His death occurred April 26, 1854. Matilda (Beers) Whittle was one of the pioneers of Winnebago County. She was born January 22, 1831, at Somerset, Orleans County, N. Y., and when five years old was brought by her parents Daniel and Mary (Herrick) Beers, to Rockford, Ill., they arriving in that city June 13, 1836. At that time there was

but one store and a few log cabins in the place. This pioneer family came by way of the lakes to Chicago, where they bought a wagon and two yoke of oxen with which they completed their long and tedious journey. There were no bridges across the streams, many of which were very difficult and dangerous to ford at that season of the year. Upon their arrival in Guilford Township, Mr. Beers purchased a farm and cut the logs from it for building material for his home. The timber was of heavy growth and the land had to be cleared before crops could be planted. This homestead comprised eighty acres bought from the government in 1836 for \$1.25 per acre. Matilda Beers was married to Frederick Whittle on March 25, 1849. From this union there were born two daughters, namely: Emily J., who was born February 28, 1850, became the wife of Leonard March, on December 15, 1869, and she died September 17, 1885; and Amelia B., who was born December 15, 1853.

On August 23, 1855, Mrs. Whittle married (second) Willard Convers, who was born January 22, 1822, in Litchfield Township, Bradford County, Pa. In 1839 he came with his parents to Illinois, the family locating in Guilford Township, Winnebago County. In 1844 Mr. Convers made his first purchase of land, upon which he continued to make his home until 1886, when he bought the adjoining property and on it he and Mrs. Convers spent their remaining years, he dying May 11, 1893. Mrs. Convers survived her second husband until she was called home June 22, 1914, having resided on the homestead until that date. In March, 1893, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Stevens moved on this farm, which has since continued to be their place of residence.

STILES, Amos D., one of the most progressive of Winnebago County's agriculturists, has proved in his work that it is possible to conduct a farm as a business proposition, and to make it pay well on the investment of time and money. He was born in Rockford Township, this county, June 17, 1861, a son of Richard S. and Sarah (Stilson) Stiles, the former of whom was born at Nelson, N. H., August 15, 1811. These parents were married at Rockford, Ill., December 10, 1846. The father had come to Rockford, in 1837, settling on a government claim, having purchased 245 acres of timber and prairie land. This he improved, and lived on the farm until his death on September 2, 1890. The mother died January 4, 1889. Their children were as follows: John Abram, who lives in Rockford Township; Lucy A., who lives at St. Petersburg, Fla.; Richard L., who lives at Petersburg, Fla.; Luther A., who lives in Rockford Township; and Amos D., who was the youngest born.

Amos D. Stiles attended the public schools in his district, and the Lounsbury Academy, Rockford. As long as his parents survived, he lived with them and gave them a dutiful attention. After the death of his parents he bought the interest of the other heirs, and now owns

the entire homestead his father secured from the government. This he devotes to general farming, and is very successful. In 1912, he completed his fine, modern nine-room residence, which is supplied with gasoline gas light and a hot air furnace.

On April 7, 1892, Mr. Stiles was married to Donelda McGeachie, born October 9, 1865, in Winnebago Township, this county, a daughter of Peter and Ellen (Campbell) McGeachie. He was born near Glasgow, Scotland, and she also in Scotland. The father came to Winnebago County, Ill., at an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Stiles became the parents of the following children: A. Edward, Ellen Lucy and Sarah Donelda, all of whom are at home. Mrs. Stiles was educated in the public schools in her district and the Selsby private school. Mr. Stiles belongs to Lodge 51, Modern Woodmen of America, of Rockford, and he is a member of the Second Congregational Church of Rockford. In politics he is a Republican. His wife belongs to the Household Science Club of Winnebago County, which is an auxiliary of the Farmers Institute of Illinois.

STILES, John Abram, a prosperous and representative farmer and dairyman of Rockford Township, is one of the successful agriculturists of Winnebago County. He was born in his present township, August 10, 1851, a son of Richard Stoddard and Sarah (Stilson) Stiles, the former born in New Hampshire, August 15, 1811, and the latter at Lobo, Canada, in October, 1822. They were married in Winnebago County, Ill., December 10, 1846, Mr. Stiles having come to this locality in 1837.

John Abram Stiles resided with his parents until his marriage, having been educated in the schools of his neighborhood. In 1884 he rented a farm in Winnebago Township, but within a year bought the property of eighty-seven acres, and developed it, residing upon it until March, 1900, when he sold it and removed to the adjoining farm in Rockford Township, comprising 215 acres. On it he has erected new buildings, remodeled others and has as valuable a farm as can be found in the county. While actively engaged in farming, he also is engaged in dairying, and keeps a herd of Durham cows, milking from fifteen to twenty.

On June 5, 1884, Mr. Stiles was united in marriage with Ella J. Hall, born at Prospect, New Haven County, Conn., March 26, 1858, a daughter of Friend C. and Loly (Burr) Hall, natives of Wallingford and Prospect, Conn., respectively. In 1857 the family came to Winnebago County, Ill., and there the mother died, April 11, 1901, and the father, October 15, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Stiles became the parents of two children: Clinton J., who was born April 24, 1885, died May 14, 1887; and Loly B., who was born July 29, 1887, married Fred E. Dales, a merchant of Davenport, Iowa. Mr. Stiles is a Republican politically. Fraternally he is a Mason, belonging to the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Shrine, and the Freeport Consis-

tory. Both he and his wife belong to the Eastern Star, in which Mrs. Stiles has filled nearly all the offices, and has been worthy matron of Rockford Chapter, O. E. S., No. 53.

STOCKHUS, Junius P., although now living retired at Rockford, was formerly well known as an agriculturist and is now a man of considerable means. He was born in southern Sweden, April 24, 1840. In 1869 he came to the United States, and located immediately thereafter at Rockford, where he worked at his trade of blacksmithing, which he had followed for five years in Sweden. After eighteen years at Rockford, he went to Kansas and bought 160 acres of land in McPherson County, and operated it for fourteen years. Selling this property, he returned to Rockford and bought his fine residence, an apartment house and two family flats on Prospect street, all of which, except his home, he rents, and is living upon his income. In September, 1911, he suffered from a stroke of paralysis which affected his right side.

On April 24, 1863, Mr. Stockhus was married in Sweden to Miss Lizzie Johannas, born in Smoland, Sweden, March 21, 1843. Their children are as follows: Ida, who is Mrs. Conrad Abvelt of Elgin, Ill., has four children, Edward, May, Ethel and Helen; Sista, who is Mrs. Victor Nelson of Rockford, has four children, Mabel, Elmer, Evelyn and Hildaman; and Della, who is Mrs. Eugene Hun of Rockford. In politics Mr. Stockhus is a Republican, and he belongs to the Masonic fraternity.

STONE, Hialmer H., a veteran of the Civil war, and one of the most substantial and highly respected men of Winnebago County, who has made Rockford his home for a number of years, is worthy of more than passing mention in a work of this character. Mr. Stone was born at Berkshire, in Franklin County, Vt., November 21, 1835, a son of James (2) and Lucinda (Danforth) Stone, natives of Vermont. In 1846 his parents moved to Sheboygan County, Wis., making the trip by canal to Buffalo, and thence on the lakes to Wisconsin. The father was a mechanic and carpenter, being noted for his skill in his native state. Upon locating in Wisconsin, he bought eighty acres of land on which he erected a log cabin, and cleared a space in the heavy timber. Back of the house was an Indian trail, and during his childhood, H. H. Stone had as playmates the little Indians who traveled with their parents along this trail. Losing the use of his ankles later on, the father was confined to the house, but secured appointment as postmaster of the station called Winooski on Onion River. He held this office until his death in March, 1857. The mother continued to reside in Wisconsin until her death which occurred when she was between ninety-six and ninety-seven years old.

Until he was twenty-two years old, H. H. Stone resided with his parents; having in the meanwhile acquired a fair educational training in the schools of Vermont and Wisconsin. At that time

he went to Winona County, Minn., and began manufacturing farm machinery. Two years later, he went to St. Charles, Minn., and in January, 1874, came to Rockford, where with a Mr. Hess, he conducted a tannery for two years. Later he traded his interest in it for farm property, holding the latter until March, 1913, when he disposed of it. For seven years he lived on this farm, and then returned to Rockford, which has since continued his home, and where he owns a handsome residence.

In November, 1860, Mr. Stone was married at Linden, Wis., to Lucy McMurphy, born at Perry, Lake County, Ohio, and died in 1867, a daughter of John McMurphy. One son was born of this marriage, namely: Roy J., of Plumas County, Cal. In 1870, Mr. Stone married (second) Marietta Millard, born in Berkshire County, Mass., a daughter of John and Martha Millard of Massachusetts. One son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Stone, namely: Frank, who lives at San Francisco, Cal. The second Mrs. Stone died in 1900. In 1902, Mr. Stone married (third) Lucia I. Ford, a niece of his first wife. Mrs. Stone was born at Linden, Wis., a daughter of Caleb and Martha Ford of Perry, Ohio.

Mr. Stone's military career was an interesting one. He enlisted in Company D, the Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, during the winter of 1863-4, for service during the Civil war. His regiment was stationed on the frontier of Minnesota, and was then transferred in the fall of 1863, to St. Louis, Mo., where it did guard duty. The next change was made when it was sent to Kentucky, following which it was in skirmishes in that state and in Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama and Texas. It also was engaged in several small battles. In September, 1865, Mr. Stone was honorably discharged. He belongs to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. of Rockford. Fraternally he is a Mason, being a member of Rockford Blue Lodge No. 102; Winnebago Chapter No. 24, and White Shrine No. 5. He served his post as sergeant major for nine years, and for one year as senior vice-commander. In politics he is a Republican, and served in the city council of Rockford for one term from the Seventh Ward.

STRAND, John. The furniture interests of Rockford have attracted skilled workmen to this city, fortunately many of Swedish birth, thus giving to this locality industrious and thrifty citizens. One of these is John Strand, born in Sweden, who in 1879 came to the United States to find a permanent home here. He stopped first at Geneseo, Ill., and worked for the farmers around there for a few months, and then went into railroad work in the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, was transferred to the roundhouse at Clinton, Iowa, and remained until 1885. He then went to Webster County, Iowa, and bought 100 acres of land which he farmed until 1895, and then came to Rockford and entered the employ of the Mechanics Furniture Company, in which he invested, buying stock. Here he continued to work faithfully until 1911, when he retired,

feeling that he had earned a period of rest from labor. In 1896 he bought his present residence at No. 705 Eighth street, where he has since lived.

On August 25, 1875, Mr. Strand was married to Anna Johnson, born in Sweden, who came to Sycamore, Ill., in 1869. In 1870 she went to Chicago, and after the fire of 1871 in that city, went to Clinton, Iowa, where she was married. Mr. and Mrs. Strand became the parents of the following children: Millard, who lives at Rockford; Elmer, who is at home; and Oscar, who lives at Rockford, the two youngest being mail carriers for the Rockford postoffice. Millard married Dora Gordon and they have three sons, Chauncy, Clinton and Kenneth. Oscar married Edith Engquist, a public school teacher. Mr. Strand belongs to Zion Lutheran Church. In politics he is a Republican. His sons Elmer and Oscar belong to the Masonic order, while Millard belongs to the order of Ben Hur. Mr. Strand and his sons stand deservedly high in public regard, all being honorable, upright, industrious men, fair in their treatment of others and charitable to those who need help.

STURTEVANT, David A. Roscoe, Ill., has some very enterprising business men who know well how to conserve the interests of their locality and attend satisfactorily to the requirements of their patrons. One of these representative business men of the county is D. A. Sturtevant, whose mercantile establishment is one of the oldest in this section. He was born October 27, 1825, a son of Cephas and Elizabeth (Lawrence) Sturtevant, natives of Massachusetts, where they married. They both died in New York state.

David A. Sturtevant grew up in New York state and was there educated. When he reached his majority, he left home, and came to Roscoe, Ill., where he worked for the Talcott & Emerson Reaper & Mower Machinery Co., of Rockford for two years. The gold excitement in California then being at its height, Mr. Sturtevant went to that state, but after a year returned to Roscoe, and worked at shoemaking for a number of years afterward. For some time he was a clerk for A. D. Lawrence, general merchant, later buying the establishment about 1877, which has continued under his ownership ever since.

During the Civil war Mr. Sturtevant served his country as a private in Company H, Second Illinois Volunteer Light Artillery, and was discharged at the expiration of his one year of enlistment, and came back to Roscoe. On February 9, 1855, Mr. Sturtevant became a Mason, joining the local lodge at Roscoe, and is now the oldest Freemason in Winnebago County, and second oldest in Illinois. Although now eighty-nine years old, he enjoys excellent health and still takes a lively interest in his business. For six years, he was postmaster of Roscoe, and has been active in its history since his locating here.

The first wife of Mr. Sturtevant was a Miss

Susan Wood, who died at Roscoe some years after marriage, leaving two children, namely: Frank, and Hattie, who is now Mrs. Wiggins, of Belvidere, Ill. Mr. Sturtevant married (second) Harriet Lawrence, a daughter of Judge Lawrence of Belvidere, Ill., who died at Roscoe, January 7, 1912. There were three children born of this marriage, namely: Maud, who is at home; Blanche Baldwin, who died at Roscoe; and Marie Blackington who also died at Roscoe. Mr. Sturtevant is a Republican and once was very active in his party. He is associated with the Methodist Church, and is honored in it as he is outside.

SULLIVAN, Catherine (Lynch), one of the independent, capable and highly esteemed business women of Rockford, whose dressmaking establishment is ranked among the best in the city if not in this part of the state, was born in Rockford, a daughter of John P. and Mary (Conley) Lynch, he of County Waterford, and she of County Tipperary, Ireland. The father came to Rockford with his mother, at an early age, and Mary Conley was also brought to this city when a girl. They married at Rockford. The father became foreman of the Emerson-Talcott Company, having been in its employ continuously for forty-three years. His death occurred in July, 1906, the mother having died in 1895, and both were highly respected. Their children were as follows: William C., who lives at Rockford; Mrs. Sullivan; and Thomas G. and David, both of whom reside at Rockford.

Catherine Lynch was educated in the public and high schools of Rockford, and remained at home until her marriage, on January 4, 1879, to John Sullivan. Mrs. Sullivan has three children, namely: Joseph M., who is an engineer of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, residing at Aurora, Ill., married Julia Alberts and they have one son, John A.; Katherine, who is Mrs. Charles Lindholm of Rockford, has two sons, Harry and Robert; and Fred W., who is also a resident of Rockford.

For a number of years Mrs. Sullivan has been engaged in dressmaking and has built up a very valuable patronage among some of the leading people of the city and vicinity, who depend upon her for their costumes, and rely upon her taste and artistic perceptions. She is a valued member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, and of the Catholic Order of Foresters, and belongs also to the Catholic Woman's League.

SULLIVAN, Daniel, whose association with the building interests of Rockford entitles him to a leading position among the foremost men in his line in Winnebago County, was born in Caledonia Township, Boone County, Ill., April 4, 1868, a son of Jeremiah and Mary (Rafferty) Sullivan, born in Ireland, but married in New York State. The father was one of the early railroaders and worked himself west, finally arriving in Caledonia Township, where he settled. There he bought a farm which he sold in 1890, and then came to Rockford where he

lived in retirement until his death in May, 1914. The mother died in 1875. Their children were as follows: Kate, who is Mrs. Michael Morgan of West street, Rockford; Mary, who is Mrs. T. F. Blake of No. 914 S. Court street; John, who is a grocer on S. Main and Morgan streets, Rockford; Bridget, who is Mrs. Mike Sullivan of Cunningham street, Rockford; Sara, who was Mrs. Morris Liston, is now deceased; Michael, who resides at No. 333 Wall street, Rockford, is night engineer of the water works; James, who lives at No. 1303 S. Church, has been a city fireman on engine No. 6 for the last two years; and Daniel, who is the youngest.

Daniel Sullivan attended the district schools of his native township, and when he was twenty-three years old, came to Rockford and helped to build the first Eclipse gas stove ever put up at Rockford. He then spent two years with the concern manufacturing these stoves, and then began working at the carpenter trade, so continuing until 1908, when he branched out into a contracting business, and since then has been engaged in building, having had charge of the erection of the Orpheum theater and what is now the Star picture building as well as many other buildings at Rockford and in the vicinity, confining his work to Winnebago County. With eight others, he organized the Carpenters' Union of Rockford, on one Labor Day, starting with eleven men on a parade, and before the close have 100 men in line with union badges. Mr. Sullivan was the first president of the Union, and served as such for six years, and as business agent for two years. He was instigator of building membership and brought 400 men into the Union. His modern residence at No. 1256 Sanford street, South Rockford, was built by him, and is a fair example of his work.

On April 26, 1893, Mr. Sullivan was married to Mary Sheehan, born at Rockford, a daughter of David and Margaret (Ambrose) Sheehan, natives of Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan have one son, Elmer, who is a graduate of St. Thomas High School of the class of 1916. Mr. Sullivan belongs to the Mystic Workers of the World, and was twice a delegate to national conventions. For seven years he served the Modern Woodmen of America as escort. In religious faith he is a Catholic, and belongs to St. Mary's parish of Rockford. An earnest, skilled man, he has won his present position through individual effort, and deserves the confidence he inspires.

SUMNER, Edward Blake, one of the wealthy and highly respected residents of Rockford who has accumulated his means through well directed activities, is now one of the distinguished members of the Winnebago County bar. He was born in Pecatonica Township, this county, in November, 1850, a son of Ephraim and Betsy (Blake) Sumner, the former born in 1808 in Vermont, and the latter in Maine. The maternal grandparents were Thatcher and Sarah (Evans) Blake.

On September 17, 1835, the father of Edward B. Sumner came to Pecatonica Township, before government land was in the market, being the first permanent settler. He bought and sold farms and at one time was a large landholder. In addition he was a lawyer and was admitted to the bar of Illinois. On May 4, 1847, occurred his marriage, his wife being a sister of the Thatcher Blake who, with Mr. Kent, was the first settler in Rockford. Upon his retirement the father moved to Rockford where he died in October, 1887. The mother died in September, 1884. During 1868-9 the father was a member of the State Assembly and he was postmaster of Vanceboro, this county. At the first election in Winnebago County he was elected justice of the peace of Peekatonika, which was composed of the territory which is now the townships of Pecatonica, Burrit and Seward. The children born to him and his wife were as follows: Ephraim, who died at the age of four years; Edward B.; and Anna, who is Mrs. Lane, and resides with her brother, Edward B.

Edward B. Sumner attended the schools of his district, the West Rockford public and high schools and is a graduate of the literary department of the University of Michigan, and also of its law department. In 1873 he was admitted to the bar of Illinois. In 1879 he was city attorney and from 1880 to 1884 he served as a member of the General Assembly and from 1884 to 1888 was a member of the State Senate. Mr. Sumner is a man of large means, owning over 1,500 acres of fine farm land in Pecatonica Township that he rents out, and also considerable city property, including business and residence realty. He is proud of his family and the part his father bore in the earlier history of the county. Among other things the father with James Holmes constructed the dam across the Pecatonica River in 1874 which gave the water power for operating the grist mill at Pecatonica for many years.

Mr. Sumner has never married. His sister, Mrs. Lane, was educated in the public schools of Pecatonica and Rockford and attended Vassar College. She has two children: Robert S., who is at home; and Mary Elizabeth, who married Dr. Paul Oliver, of Oak Park, Ill. Mr. Sumner belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 64, B. P. O. E.

SWANBORG, Charles J., superintendent of and a stockholder in the Rockford Frame & Fixture Company, with residence at No. 619 Lewis street, is one of the substantial Swedish born residents of Rockford. He has risen to his present desirable position through his own unaided efforts, and as the result of inherent qualities which make for good citizenship. He was born in Sweden, January 17, 1861, and there educated. In 1880, he came to the United States, and located at Rockford, going to work for the Price glove factory, where he remained two years. He was then with the Rockford Mitten & Hosiery Company for six years. During this period he gained an adequate acquaintance with business methods and the English language. He

then embarked in a milk business and carried it on for twelve years. In 1897 he became identified with his present company as a sawer, and was promoted to be superintendent in 1914. In addition to his business connections mentioned, Mr. Swanborg owns city property and is in comfortable circumstances.

In February, 1882, Mr. Swanborg was married to Augusta Palmgren, born in Sweden, and their children are as follows: Florence, who married Alben Anderson, has four children, Floyd, Kermit, Wesley and Chester; Flavina, who married Morris Munson has children; and Walter. Mr. Swanborg belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Lyran Society, being one of the founders of that organization. Zion Church holds his membership and benefits by his interest. In politics he is a Republican. A man of enterprise, he has exerted himself to accomplish his ends, and his success proves that his judgment was good.

SWANSON, C. M., president of the United Fixture Company at No. 621 Cedar street, of which he is also general manager, is one of the best examples of self-reliant men of Swedish birth that Rockford affords. He was born in Smoland, Sweden, December 9, 1870, a son of A. J. and Josephine (Yonquist) Swanson. A. J. Swanson was also born in Smoland, and the mother was born at Cooper, Sweden. They came to the United States in 1882, locating at Hauto, Carbon County, Pa., where for three years the father was engaged in coal mining. He then left for Des Moines, Iowa, and embarked in a coal business which he continued until he retired. Both he and the mother survive. In politics he is a Republican.

C. M. Swanson was twelve years old when the family came to the United States. While residing at Des Moines, Iowa, he began his business career with A. A. Anderson in a planing mill business at No. 221 East Third street, that city, with whom he remained for eight years. For the next twelve years he was with Martin & Culverson, and upon leaving them went to Omaha, Neb., where he was foreman for Alfred Blinn during the two years that followed. The National Wood Company then secured his services as superintendent of their shops at Sioux City, Neb., and he held that position for two years, leaving to return to Des Moines, where he was foreman for four years of the Jaeger Manufacturing Company. Mr. Swanson then came to Rockford and after being associated with different factories for two years, went into business for himself with the United Fixtures Company on March 15, 1913, at No. 621 Cedar street, manufacturing all kinds of office and store fixtures thrift, he has advanced ahead of many of his and mill work.

In 1894 Mr. Swanson was married to Miss Carrie Sundquist, a daughter of John and Martha Sundquist. Mr. and Mrs. Swanson have four children, namely: Earl E., May V., Violet E., and Carl M. In politics Mr. Swanson is a Republican. His fraternal affiliations are with the

Yeoman order. A man of untiring industry and thrift, he has advanced ahead of many of his former associates, and is one of the substantial men of Winnebago County.

SWANSON, Gust E. There are a number of natives of Sweden at Rockford and in Winnebago County, and few, if any of them, have failed to succeed in their undertakings, the characteristic of these people making for ultimate prosperity. One who is now numbered among the leading grocers of Rockford is Gust E. Swanson. He was born in Smoland, Sweden, October 7, 1887, a son of Swan Magnuson and Mary Swanson.

When he was fourteen years old, Gust E. Swanson, who had attended school in his native land, came to the United States, locating at Rockford in 1902, having in the meanwhile worked for eighteen months as a farm hand in the vicinity of Huntley, Ill. Upon coming to Rockford he engaged with the Union Furniture Company, with which he continued for two years, and then embarked in a grocery business for himself on Fourteenth avenue. There he conducted a small business for eighteen months and then sold out and was a clerk for Carl Sandsteadt, a grocer. Having spent three years with him, on December 10, 1911, Mr. Swanson once more became a grocer on his own responsibility, this time at No. 604 Seventh street. After a year he moved to No. 526 Seventh street, where he has a large store and is doing a fine business, being noted for his reliability and moderate prices.

On June 14, 1910, Mr. Swanson was married to Miss Bertha Johnson, a daughter of A. L. and Matilda Johnson, and they have one child, Loraine B. M. Mr. Swanson is an Odd Fellow and Modern Woodman. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were born in Sweden and were married there, but came to the United States soon thereafter, locating at Rockford. Mr. Johnson was employed in different manufacturing plants for a number of years, and then was made a city employee. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson reside at Rockford.

SWANSON, John Edward. After many years of useful endeavor John Edward Swanson is now enjoying the fruits of his energy and hard work, and is living retired at Rockford. He was born in the southern part of Sweden, January 19, 1862, a son of Carl and Ingrid Swanson. In 1880 John Edward Swanson came to the United States, locating in De Kalb County, Ill., where he was joined by his parents four years later. Until 1890 he worked on various farms, and then desiring to increase his store of knowledge, he came to Rockford and attended a business college for a year. He then established himself in a real estate and insurance business, in company with others, and continued this association for three years, when he started the same kind of business for himself, with offices on Seventh street. After three years, he sold and was made secretary of the Scandia Furniture Company, holding that office for eight years, when he was made secretary and treasurer of the Standard

Furniture Company. In 1912 ill health compelled him to retire from business activity, although he retains his interest in the Standard Furniture Company.

In 1897 Mr. Swanson was married at De Kalb, Ill., to Hannah C. Gustafson, born in Sweden where her parents both died. Mr. and Mrs. Swanson have the following children: Ingrid, Eveline and Vivian, all at home. Mr. Swanson purchased his fine residence at No. 732 Seminary avenue in 1903, which is modern in every detail. He is a member of the First Lutheran Church, of Rockford. Since 1910 he has served as election commissioner. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Court of Honor, and is very popular with all who know him.

SWANSON SISTERS, The. As much artistic skill is requisite in designing a hat as in painting a picture, and sometimes much more, for the artist working with canvas and oils does not have to take into consideration the action of sun and rain upon his completed masterpiece, nor adapt it to the vagaries of fashion, or the requirements of a capricious customer. Women who appreciate proper dressing are as particular with regard to their headgear as their other garments, and soon learn where to go to secure something that while it is in the very advance of fashion is distinctive and suited to their personal requirements and tastes. So it is that one who has made of her calling an art can always command a large patronage that is steady and reliable. Miss Jennie R. Swanson, who, with her sister Miss Nellie, conducts a millinery establishment at No. 404 E. State street, Rockford, learned her profession at Nordstrum's on W. State street, and then for ten years had a very valuable experience as head trimmer for Hill, the milliner.

Miss Jennie R. Swanson was born at Green Bay, Wis., while Miss Nellie Swanson was born near Lincoln, Neb. They are daughters of John and Matilda Swanson. After the birth of the elder daughter, her parents went to Lincoln Neb., where the father was engaged in farming for a time. He then went to Marshfield, Wis., and spent four years in a furniture factory as a cabinetmaker, and then located at Rockford, where he and the mother have since been residents.

Having fully established her right to artistic consideration in her line, Miss Jennie felt that she ought to have a wider field for its expression, and so she and her sister Miss Nellie, bought the millinery and dry goods store of Anton Hill, but later disposed of the dry goods department, and since 1909 have been at No. 404 E. State street, where they carry on a large and flourishing business. Prior to forming her partnership with her sister, Miss Nellie was with Dunn & Company on S. Main street for five years, as a valued assistant in their dry goods department.

SWANSTROM, Charles A., proprietor of the popular grocery at No. 1304 and 1306 Kilbourne avenue, has one of the best establishments of its kind in this part of Rockford. He was born at Sundswall, Sweden, July 4, 1888, a son of John and Mary (Lundstrom) Swanstrom. In early life the father came to the United States, and after locating at Minneapolis, Minn., was employed in the waterworks department of that city. Five years later the mother came from Sweden, and joined her husband, bringing their son, Charles A., with her, he then being six years old. These parents survive and are still living at Minneapolis, where the father still holds his position with the waterworks. Both belong to the First Lutheran Church of that city.

Charles A. Swanstrom was educated at Minneapolis, and began to learn the dyeing business, but found that it was too hard a strain on his eyes, and so abandoned it and in 1905 came to Rockford, where he engaged with the Nash Watch Company. In a short time he left to engage with the D. Pizer Furniture Company of E. State street, and remained with that concern for two years. He was then with the E. & W. Clothing Company on S. Main street for seven years, at the expiration of which time he saw an excellent opening, and started his present business, which he has developed considerably in the years which have followed, and now controls a fine trade.

On February 23, 1910, Mr. Swanstrom was married at Freeport, Ill., to Miss Sigrid Erickson, born January 10, 1888, a daughter of John F. and Ellen Pylad Erickson, natives of Sweden, and they have two children, namely: Lucille M., born March 25, 1911; and Kenneth C., born April 25, 1916. Mr. Swanstrom is a Republican. Both he and his wife belong to the First Lutheran Church of Rockford and are honored and valued members of that congregation.

SWEZEY, Adoniram Judson. It may be true that the man who gains his education from books through his own earnest efforts, is better educated in many ways than he who has had advantages of a collegiate training. That was certainly the case with the late Adoniram Judson Swezey, of Guilford Township, who was one of the best informed men of Winnebago County. He was born at Harmony, Chautauqua County, N. Y., February 22, 1836, a son of Darius A. and Esther (Brooks) Swezey, natives of Herkimer County, N. Y., and Cortland County, N. Y. The grandparents were Daniel and Clarissa (Sperry) Swezey, natives of Swezeytown, R. I., and New Haven, Conn., and James and Rhoda (Williams) Brooks, natives of New Marlborough, Mass., and Montgomery County, N. Y. The great-grandparents were Daniel and Sarah (Beale) Swezey, natives of Long Island, N. Y., and Connecticut, and James and Phoebe (Collier) Brooks, of Massachusetts.

In the spring of 1845 the family moved to northeastern Pennsylvania. The parents of Adoniram J. Swezey had been married in Chau-

tauqua County, N. Y., but lived with the father's parents until 1851, when they migrated from Erie, Pa., via Detroit, Mich. From there they took a train to New Buffalo, Mich., then went by boat to Chicago, and from thence to Elgin, Ill., by railroad, completing the journey from the latter place by stage to Rockford, the entire trip consuming ten days. The father looked about until he found land that suited him, and then bought fifty acres of the present farm of his son's estate, which at that time was covered with timber. A. J. Swezey and his father erected a frame house, and grubbed out the timber, among which were fifty hard maple trees. The father died January 13, 1864, and the mother April 1, 1897, having had the following children: A. J., who was the eldest; Edward P., who was born August 7, 1837, died November 4, 1865; Harlon P., who was born May 25, 1842, died November 26, 1876; S. Adelia, who was born March 3, 1844, married Malcolm Bruner, and died March 25, 1879; Rhoda B., who was born December 10, 1845, died October 17, 1871; and Almada A., who was born December 15, 1855, died August 28, 1878.

Adoniram J. Swezey attended Waterford Academy at Erie, Pa., and the high school of Warren, Ohio, spending sixteen weeks in the latter institution. He also attended the Rockford High school during one summer and was ambitious about entering college, but circumstances prevented. He taught school nine terms and for one term of that time was instructor of mathematics in the Elgin Academy, having prepared himself for this work through personal study and reading. Possessing a remarkable memory, Mr. Swezey retained interest until the last in the wealth of information he had acquired, remembering all that he had read or heard, and no man in his neighborhood was better posted on the current events of the day.

On June 28, 1866, Mr. Swezey was married to Malinda Bruner, born at Gossfield, Ontario, Canada, October 6, 1843, a daughter of Philip and Mary (Monger) Bruner, natives of Ontario, who in 1850 moved to Harlem Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Swezey became the parents of the following children: Esther Mary, who was born September 4, 1867, is the widow of Dr. Robert E. Coy of Rockford, who died November 21, 1905, and has one daughter, Isabella Mary, born February 25, 1905; Otto H., who was born June 7, 1869, lives at Honolulu, Hawaii, being a member of the Hawaiian Island Sugar Planters Association, and is a professor of biology there, married Mary Walsh, born at Cleveland, Ohio, January 15, 1877, and they have a son, Joseph, who was born September 21, 1906; Royal E., who was born October 31, 1870, lives at Eugene, Ore., where he is a fruit grower, and he married Irene Chamberlain, born September 18, 1885, and they have one son, Melvin, who was born September 9, 1907; and Anna M., who was born May 3, 1874, lives with her mother.

Mr. Swezey was a strong temperance man, and was once nominated for the legislature on the Prohibition ticket. For many years he was a very devout member of the Baptist church. He

was one of the founders and a leading member of the county Grange, held the office of school director for some years, and was an important factor in the order of Good Templars. His death occurred October 8, 1915, and his remains were interred in the Marsh Cemetery. Ambitious, he never allowed personal interest to obscure his sense of right and justice, and while he succeeded in a material way, he always preserved the power to exert a good influence in his community, and regarded the esteem of his neighbors as more worth while than the amassing of wealth.

SWIFT, Edwin G., was born in Livingston County, N. Y. December 21, 1826, and came to Illinois in 1837, his parents locating near Pecatonica. He was a carpenter by trade and died at Pecatonica, February 9, 1897. His wife survives and makes her home with her son Arba. She was born October 10, 1830, and was married October 20, 1848. The following children were born to her and her husband: Osker, who was born October 20, 1849; Oreil, who was born October 19, 1851; L. B. and L. V., twins, who were born February 4, 1853; S. A., who was born October 3, 1855; Kenneth, who was born February 22, 1858; Delbert, who was born March 25, 1860; Mrs. Ella King, who was born in July, 1862; Ulysses, who was born September 22, 1866; Elmer, who was born May 9, 1869; and Arba who was the youngest.

In 1861 the father of these children enlisted for three months for service in the Civil war. On August 25, 1862, he re-enlisted and was wounded at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, and participated in all in twenty-six battles, being in Company B, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. From one engagement he emerged with sixteen bullet holes in his blanket, and one in his hat, but was not wounded. He was discharged in 1865, having served for nearly four years. At Charleston, S. C., he was taken prisoner and confined at Andersonville but escaped, but was recaptured and taken to the Florence prison, where he remained for six months. This was prior to his promotion to the captaincy of his company.

After his return home Mr. Swift resumed his work as a carpenter. During the early days he used to shoot wild hogs in the timber, dress them and take them to Galena, the nearest market. He was one of the early settlers of the county and passed through many hardships. His parents secured land from the government, and fifty-four acres of this original homestead is now a farm that until recently was owned by Arba Swift and his mother, but they sold and invested in Pecatonica property. Arba Swift is taking care of his aged mother, who had the misfortune to lose her eyesight seven years ago. He is a Republican but has not cared for public honors. A hardworking man he has won his present position through his own efforts and stands high in his community.

SWORDS, T. E., a prosperous merchant of Rockford who has made his establishment rep-

resentative of fair dealing and desirable merchandise, is a recognized leader in his line. He was born at Freeport, Ill., December 19, 1881, a son of Dennis and Elizabeth (Ryan) Swords. The parents were born in Ireland, the father in 1834, and the mother in 1859, but the former was educated in Scotland. In young manhood he came to the United States, and stopped in New York City for a short time. He then came to Rockford, where he embarked in a refining sugar business and continued it for a number of years. He was made engineer of the Rockford water works later on in life, and held this position at the time of his death in 1897, when he was sixty-three years old. The mother died in 1902, aged forty-five years. In politics the father was a Democrat.

After being graduated from the Rockford High School, T. E. Swords went to work for W. F. and J. Barnes Company where he learned the trade of a machinist, and remained with this concern for two and one-half years. Then with his three brothers he established a plumbing business located at Nos. 704-06 Seventh street, and is still interested in it, being secretary of the company. The firm carry a full line of fire protectors, automatic sprinklers, heating and lighting fixtures and have installed over one million dollars' worth of appliances at Rockford alone.

In 1912 Mr. Swords was married to Miss Frances K. O'Connor, a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Pendergrass) O'Connor of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Swords have one child, Elizabeth. Mr. Swords is one of the enterprising men of Winnebago County, and although still a young man, has accomplished much, and is destined for further success, for he possesses energy, good judgment and business acumen, characteristics which make for advancement.

TALCOTT, Wait, page 704.

TALCOTT, William A., page 934.

TAYLOR, Allen Lawrence, senior member of the well known firm of Allen L. Taylor & Bro., the leading general blacksmiths of Winnebago, was born at McVeytown, Mifflin County, Pa., January 24, 1884, a son of James A. and Annie E. (Stine) Taylor, both natives of the Keystone state. James A. Taylor was a farmer. He was accidentally killed by a railroad train at Vineyard, Pa., in 1909, when but fifty years of age. He had a family of ten children, as follows: Milton; Joseph, who is the partner of A. L. Taylor; Della, who is the wife of John Vinson of Winnebago; Allen L.; Frank; Rebecca, who is the wife of James Shore; Nona; Clark, who is a resident of Winnebago; and Elizabeth, John and Anna.

Allen Lawrence Taylor was reared in his native county, and educated in its public schools. In 1904 he came to Winnebago, Ill., and served his apprenticeship to the blacksmithing trade. He worked as a journeyman until 1912 when he formed his present partnership with his

brother Joseph, and they purchased the shop they now occupy. These young men have the majority of the business in their line in their vicinity. In 1914 they purchased an adjoining lot on which they erected a garage 30x50 feet with storage capacity for sixteen machines, and they have become adepts in repairing automobiles.

On November 29, 1911, Mr. Taylor was married to Miss Gertrude Houghton, a daughter of Thomas and Clara (Houghton) Houghton of Durand Township, who now reside in the village of Winnebago. She is a granddaughter of Aaron and Mary Ann (Barningham) Houghton, natives of England and pioneers of Durand Township. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have two daughters, Verna and Margaret. Mr. Taylor is a progressive and alert business man. Politically he is a Republican.

TAYLOR, Horace W., page 709.

TAYLOR, Walter Brownell, proprietor and manager of the Taylor garage at Nos. 318 and 320 Chestnut street, is one of the progressive men of Rockford who has taken advantage of the demand for first class service in his line. He was born at Taunton, Mass., September 15, 1851, a son of James D. and Mary W. (Brownell) Taylor. The father was born at Assonet and the mother at Fall River, Mass. The father was reared in his native place and there became a manufacturer of tacks. His death occurred at Taunton, Mass., in 1905. A Republican in politics during all his mature years, he was never an office seeker. The mother survives and makes her home at Taunton, where she is active in the Congregational Church, to which the father also belonged.

Walter B. Taylor was reared and educated at Taunton, Mass., where he entered upon a business career as a clerk in a dry goods store, but after a year became associated with his father in the manufacture of tacks, and so continued until 1877, when he came to Rockford, and until 1900 was with the Rockford Tack Company. In that year he connected himself with the Rockford Nail Company, and in 1904 left that concern to become foreman of the milling department of W. F. & John Barnes. In 1906 he embarked in an automobile business at the old Bradley Planing mill, leaving that site in April, 1907, when D. P. Cutler erected for him the building he now owns, having purchased it in 1909. He also owns the lot upon which it stands. Later Mr. Taylor remodeled the building, and now has one of the most modern garages in the city. He has been agent for the Hupmobile, Buick, and Stoddard-Dayton machines, but of late years has confined himself to automobile repair work, and has more business than he can handle. He is president of the organization of garage owners of the state of Illinois, and a member of the Chamber of Commerce at Rockford.

In 1872 Mr. Taylor was married to Miss Ella Virginia Knight, a daughter of Moses H. and

Sarah D. (Garlin) Knight, of New Bedford, Mass., and they have three children: Walter B., Jr., Mrs. Edna Knight Taylor Brown, and Frank C., who is interested in business with his father. Mr. Taylor is a member of the Royal Arcanum, the Mystic Workers, and is a Mason in high standing. Energetic, reliable and expert, Mr. Taylor has built up a fine business, and his standing is very high in his community.

TEAGUE, John. The tribute paid a man by his associates after death has claimed him, usually is characteristic of his life, for appreciation is not shown one who has not earned it. With the passing of the late John Teague Rockford lost one of its worthy and useful citizens, and those who knew him best testified to his worth in many ways. For years he had been a prosperous business man, and he was also known in social circles. He was born in Cornwall, England, October 12, 1856, a son of William and Catherine (Penrose) Teague, natives of Falmouth and Truro, England. In 1866 these parents emigrated to the United States, locating at Mineral Point, Wis., where the father worked as a carpenter and contractor for two years, and then a change was made to Rockford, Ill. Here the father continued as a carpenter and contractor and had a carpenter shop. Subsequently he opened a restaurant at No. 116 So. Main street, but later retired and lived on South Church street. In 1893 he went to Chicago and conducted the Rockford House, located on South Clark street, opposite the post office, until his death in the latter part of that same year. The children born to these parents were as follows: John; Elizabeth, who is deceased; William, who is with the B. & O. Railroad; George, who is deceased; and Etta, who is Mrs. Charles Rein, of Houston, Tex.

John Teague learned the printer's trade and was assistant foreman on the Indianapolis Sentinel, and resided in that city until 1881 when he went to Chicago and was there employed on the Chicago Times. In 1882 he returned to Rockford and took over his father's restaurant business, conducting it until his death, February 23, 1909, developing it into a prosperous concern. After his demise, his widow continued the business until May, 1911, when she sold it. She resides in her beautiful residence on South Church street, and in addition to it she owns another residence on Harlem avenue.

On September 29, 1875, Mr. Teague was married to Martha A. Dayman, born at Brantford, Canada, April 28, 1859, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah Ann (Moore) Dayman, natives of London, Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Teague became the parents of the following children: Edna Catherine, who is Mrs. W. C. Sproul of Rockford, Ill.; Martha Evelyn, who is Mrs. Floyd Westenburg of No. 1137 Harlem avenue, Rockford; and Bessie E., deceased.

Mr. Teague was a member of the Court Street Methodist Church, to which his family also belong. In politics he was a Democrat. He was a charter member of the Royal Arcanum, join-

ing that order at Chicago, and was regent there and at Rockford. At the time of his death he was serving the order as chaplain. Mr. Teague also belonged to the Knights of Pythias.

THAXTER, Rev. James, whose ministerial services extended over a long period, and whose beautiful Christian character influenced countless numbers to lead a better life, was for many years a resident of Winnebago County. He was born in Norfolk, England, March 24, 1837. Although he studied in the schools of his native place, and the night schools of Chicago, he was practically self-educated. He began his apprenticeship to the carpenter trade during his boyhood in England. In 1870 he left England for the United States, and after his arrival located at Chicago, where he followed his trade for some years. During this time he prepared himself for the ministry and about 1873 was ordained a minister of the Free Methodist Church. Later he had charge of churches at Polo and Winnebago, Ill., Beaver Dam and St. Charles, Wis., and Rockford, Ill. When, on account of his health, he was forced to retire, he settled at Winnebago. In 1888 a change in his religious views caused him to unite with the Congregational Church and he continued a member of that denomination until his death at Winnebago, March 12, 1907, aged seventy years.

In 1885 Mr. Thaxter was married to Sarah H., a daughter of James and Jane (Langdale) Smith, natives of England, who came to the United States in 1830, and to Winnebago County in 1863. Mr. Thaxter survives her husband.

THAYER, Elisha L., senior member of the well known and thoroughly reliable jewelry firm of Elisha L. Thayer & Bro., at No. 201 W. State street, Rockford, is one of the leading business men of the West Side. He is a native son of Rockford, born here on North Winnebago street, February 18, 1864, a son of William Thurston and Catherine (Woodruff) Thayer.

William T. Thayer was born in Massachusetts in 1830 and came west in 1852, locating at Rockford, where he worked in the lumber yards then located on the present site of the postoffice. Later he went to Pecatonica Township, where he engaged in a grocery business for a number of years, but subsequently went to Boston, Mass. After some time spent in that city, he returned to Rockford, where he established himself in a grocery business on West State street, and continued to operate that store for thirty years, or until his retirement. He passed away at his residence here on February 20, 1902, aged seventy-one years. Both he and his wife were members of the Congregational Church. He belonged to the old fire company of Rockford. From the formation of the party, the father was a Republican.

The mother of Elisha L. Thayer was born in New Marlboro, near Great Barrington, in the Berkshire Hills, Mass., in 1836, and came to Rockford with her parents in 1851, when she was

fifteen years old, and here she was subsequently married to Mr. Thayer. The Woodruffs made the trip by water from Massachusetts to Chicago, and then drove the remainder of the distance. Her father, Elisha L. Woodruff, became a farmer just south of Rockford. For the first three years after their arrival, the Woodruffs lived in a log cabin the father erected, and then he built a stone house on the river road. After six years in it, he moved to Rockford and built a fine residence on Winnebago street and Park avenue, and there lived retired, still later moving to Woodlawn avenue, where he died in 1869, aged seventy-three years, his wife having died in 1865. Mrs. Thayer died February 9, 1908, aged seventy-one years.

Elisha L. Thayer was reared and educated at Rockford, and he began his business career as a delivery boy for the Cole, Day Grocery Company, and was with this concern for two years. He then started to learn the jewelry business, with Paxton & Peers, and spent twelve years with this firm, when he went into business for himself in the old Loomis block, but after six years he moved to No. 306 West State street and occupied that store for eleven years. On May 29, 1915, he secured his present store at No. 201 West State street, where he has one of the very finest jewelry stores in the city. Fraternally Mr. Thayer is a Mason, a Knight Templar and Shriner, and belongs also to the Elks. His religious connection is with the Congregational Church.

Mr. Thayer is the eldest of a family of four children, the others being: Frank T., Adeline L., and Phoebe E. Frank T. Thayer was born in Pecatonica Township, April 28, 1867, and was educated at Rockford. He was with L. B. Halsted, in gents' furnishings, for some time, and then engaged with John D. Godfrey in the same line of business. Later he was with the Grand Union Tea Company, and then was in the watch factory until having gained a practical working knowledge of this line of business, and desiring to be his own employer, he went into business with his brother Elisha L., and the two form a strong combination, and have built up a very valuable trade.

THAYER, Warren B., treasurer and general manager of the Kurtz Action Company of Rockford, is a man whose entire career is marked by steadfast purpose and energy of action that have advanced him far on the road to success. He was born at Boston, Mass., September 3, 1870, of sturdy New England stock. His educational training was received in the excellent schools of Boston, where he made his home and earlier ventures in business until 1902. In that year he came to Illinois, locating in Chicago until 1910. There he took charge of the Piano & Organ Supply Company as general manager and treasurer, successfully operating its large North-side plant until he left in 1910 for Rockford to enter upon his present duties with the company in which he is substantially interested.

A man of retiring disposition, Mr. Thayer has

not come before the public politically, preferring to concentrate his efforts upon his business, but he takes a public-spirited interest in civic matters, and has always proved a valuable addition to any community in which he has seen fit to establish himself. He is a Thirty-second degree Mason, a Shriner and an Elk, and a member of the Illinois Athletic Club, Chicago Yacht Club, and the Piano Club, all of Chicago, as well as the Country Club, Motor Club, and all of the booster organizations of Rockford.

THOLIN, Oscar A., a prosperous contractor of painting and decorating whose technical skill combined with his artistic perceptions make him rank among the leaders in his line at Rockford, is conveniently located at No. 613 Seventh street. He was born at Grenna, Sweden, May 5, 1861, a son of Anders P. Tholin, natives of Sweden, who never left that country.

Oscar Tholin spent his boyhood in Sweden and was there educated and taught painting and decorating, following these trades until 1878 when he sailed for the United States. Coming to Rockford, he was with different furniture factories for a short time, and then, in 1880, he established himself in a painting and decorating business and conducted it for ten years. In ten years he became a member of the Rockford Painting and Decorating Company, later with his brother, Charles F., buying out his associates, and the two continued together until 1901, when Mr. Tholin bought out his brother and has since continued alone, in that year removal being made to the present quarters. He has built up a very profitable trade.

In March, 1890, Mr. Tholin married Mrs. Aug. Waltin, who was born in Westergotland, Sweden, and she had one child, Agder J. Mr. and Mrs. Tholin became the parents of two children, namely: Rudolph and Harriett Julia Marie. In 1914 Rudolph married Miss Helen Bushaw, a daughter of Frank and Anna (Kennedy) Bushaw, and he is now acting as manager of his father's business. Mr. Tholin is a Modern Woodman. In politics he is a Republican. In addition to his business, Mr. Tholin owns farming land in Logan County, Cal., and his beautiful residence at No. 820 Fourth avenue. He is one of the representative men of Winnebago County, and few stand any higher in public esteem.

THOMAS, Alden, page 652.

THOMAS, John B., whose life has been spent in farming, is one of the energetic men of Winnebago County. He was born in Erie County, N. Y., September 11, 1858, a son of Isaac Thomas and his wife Lydia (Lazell) Thomas, natives of New York state. The father, a stonemason by trade, died in 1894, while the mother died in 1861. The children born to them were: Delbert, who lives at Buffalo, N. Y.; Lafayette, deceased; Charles, who lives in New York state; Jerome H., who lives in California; Frank, deceased; and John B.

John B. Thomas was educated in the public

schools and when he completed his education began working for farmers by the month. Sixteen years ago he began farming for himself, and has remained on his present farm for the past thirteen years. In 1898 Mr. Thomas was married to Mrs. Carrie Hamilton, widow of Leonard L. Hamilton. Her father was born at Fairfax, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1832, and her mother was born in Vermont, in 1844. They came to Illinois in 1854, locating in Stephenson County, where they farmed. The father died in 1901. Their children were: Mrs. Thomas and a sister, Mrs. Susan E. Titus, who lives at Pecatonica. By her first marriage Mrs. Thomas had two sons, namely: Harry L., and William J., both of whom live in the village of Winnebago. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have the following children: Frank, who was born April 19, 1899; Fred, who was born October 14, 1901; and Clarence, who was born January 20, 1903. Politically Mr. Thomas is a Republican, but his time has been too much engrossed in his work for him to seek public honors.

THOMAS, O. P. Located on section 7, Owen Township, is found the well-cultivated farm belonging to O. P. Thomas, one of Winnebago County's old and honored citizens and a resident of this locality for many years. Mr. Thomas was born in Wayne County, Pa., December 17, 1837, and is a son of William M. and Eliza (Conklin) Thomas. The grandfather of O. P. Thomas, Judge Thomas, was one of the prominent citizens of his community, a well known jurist and prominent lawyer, who, when not busy with his practice engaged in farming and in floating logs down the Susquehannah River.

William M. Thomas was born in Pennsylvania, November 9, 1805, and grew up on his father's farm, on which he worked in addition to engaging in the lumber business. On November 13, 1825, Mr. Thomas was married. He moved to Harrison Township, Winnebago County, Ill., where for one year he worked out among the farmers as a day laborer. He subsequently moved to Rockton Township, where he secured a claim of eighty acres, on which he built a small log house, and to the west of this tract later added sixteen acres. The log cabin continued to be his place of residence for sixteen years, at the end of which time he built a frame house, and resided therein until his retirement, when he went to Rockton, built a comfortable home, and there lived quietly until his death, July 5, 1882, when he was seventy-seven years of age. On November 13, 1878, he and Mrs. Thomas celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Mr. Thomas always was a Republican in politics; his fraternal connection was with the Masons, and he and Mrs. Thomas were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Thomas, who survived her husband twelve years and died at Rockton, was born in Wayne County, Pa., where her father kept a tavern for a number of years, and where he died, although his widow survived him for several years and died at Rockton, Ill.

The boyhood days of O. P. Thomas were passed at Rockton, and his education was secured in the public school. He remained at home until 1862, in which year he enlisted for service during the Civil war, as a private in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and after three years of brave and valiant service returned to his home at Rockton. For a time after the war he worked as a farm hand, and later drove with his brother-in-law to Iowa, along the Minnesota line, in search of land which at that time was selling for \$5 an acre. However he could not find what he wanted and accordingly returned to Rockton, where he again found work as a farm hand. He then began working on the farm for his father and continued to be so engaged until December 1, 1870, when he was married to Miss Alice Carr, daughter of John and Irene (Bibbins) Carr. He is a Republican in politics, but not a politician, although he takes an interest in the welfare of his community and is always ready to give his support to beneficial movements.

The parents of Mrs. Thomas were both born in the State of New York, the father in Steuben County in 1828, and the mother in Livingston County, where Mrs. Thomas was born. They migrated to Illinois at an early day and settled as pioneers in Will County, but after one year came to Winnebago County and for a time rented a farm in Owen Township. Later they removed to Rockton, where they rented a farm for a short space, and then went to Rock County, Wis., where they purchased eighty acres of land, which they cultivated and developed into a handsome property. There the father passed away in 1897, aged sixty-nine years, while the mother died at Beloit, Wis., in 1912.

THOMAS, Peter, whose grocery establishment at No. 2002 Fourteenth avenue, may well serve as a model for others in the same line, is one of the substantial young business men of Rockford. He was born at Kenosha, Wis., August 28, 1882, a son of Matthias and Marie (Harb) Thomas, natives of Milwaukee, Wis., and Switzerland. After his marriage, the father engaged in farming in the vicinity of Milwaukee, Wis., for a few years, and then moved to Kenosha, where he bought property, and is still residing in that city. He belongs to the Catholic Knights. The mother also survives.

After being reared and educated at Kenosha, Peter Thomas entered the Kenosha Knitting Works and remained there for six years. He was then employed in a grocery for a short time, and also in a clothing store, when he went to St. Louis, Mo., and for a year was employed in a restaurant. Returning to Kenosha, he was, for a year, in the employ of the Simmons Bed factory, and then in 1904, came to Rockford. For the following three years he was with the Rockford Mitten Company on Wyman street. Desiring to branch out for himself, Mr. Thomas went into the grocery business, and built his present building, a two-

story brick structure at No. 2002 Fourteenth avenue, and here he enjoys a fine trade.

In 1905 Mr. Thomas was married to Miss Julia Haim, a daughter of Joseph and Christina (Selbach) Haim of Gelsen, Kirchen, Germany, who came to the United States in 1888, locating at Racine, Wis., where the father is employed by the Mitchell Wagon Works Company. The mother also survives. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have two children, namely: Lillian and Pearl. Mr. Thomas belongs to the Foresters. In addition to his store building he owns property on Twelfth avenue. He is a man of considerable means and has high standing in the city and county.

THOMPSON, Joel M., formerly an agriculturist of Winnebago County, but now living in the village of Pecatonica, where he owns five acres of fine fruit land, is one of the substantial men of his community. He was born in Summit County, Ohio, July 8, 1839, a son of Joel M. and Emily (Mills) Thompson, natives of Ohio who came to Winnebago County many years ago. They secured land from the government four miles east of Pecatonica, on which they erected a log cabin and lived in it for many years.

On April 17, 1861, Joel M. Thompson was married to Sarah Ryan, who was born January 6, 1842, and they have two children, namely: Edward and Villa. The latter married John Benedict, a native of Winnebago County, Ill., who died May 9, 1912, and they had one son, Cecil Edward, born September 16, 1901. The other grandchildren in the family are: Howard C., who was born March 28, 1894; Vera, who was born June 24, 1896; and Ina, who was born October 21, 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson celebrated their golden wedding anniversary April 17, 1911. They have lived in their present house for forty years, and are in comfortable circumstances.

Mr. Thompson was road commissioner for nine years, being elected on the Republican ticket. He is proud of the fact that he cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. The Methodist Church holds his membership. Mr. Thompson enlisted in defense of his country in 1861, in Company K, First Illinois Cavalry, under Gen. Steel, and served eighteen months in the Civil war. After his discharge he returned home, but in 1863 re-enlisted, in Company L, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, and was made a corporal. He is a member of Ellis Post, G. A. R., at Pecatonica, Ill. In both war and peace he has been an efficient man. At one time he owned eighty acres of land in Pecatonica Township, but sold it some years ago.

THOMPSON, Norman C., page 709.

THOMPSON, Norman F., president of the Manufacturers National Bank of Rockford, one of the sound, reliable and efficient bankers of this city, whose connection with the bank extends over a period of fifteen years, was born in the

state of Georgia, June 27, 1856, a son of Norman C. and Laura J. (Blackmer) Thompson, born in Georgia and Vermont, respectively. The family is of English origin, Anthony Thompson, the American progenitor, having come to the colonies in 1637, and was one of the first settlers of New Haven, Conn. The paternal grandparents were Norman Brace and Seraph Howe (Ruggles) Thompson, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts, respectively.

Norman C. Thompson was born in Georgia, but when his son, Norman E., was a year old, he moved to Rockford, Ill., arriving here on June 7, 1857, engaged in manufacturing and banking with his father, Norman B. Thompson, becoming one of the substantial and representative men of Rockford.

After completing his courses at the Rockford public schools, Norman F. Thompson entered Yale University, from which he was graduated in 1881. Returning to Rockford, Mr. Thompson found ample opportunity to develop his business capabilities along manufacturing lines, but subsequently went to New York City, where he was profitably engaged in a mortgage and investment business. In 1898 he came back to Rockford, and on May 8, 1900, was elected a member of the board of directors of the Manufacturers National Bank of this city, and at the same time was made its vice president, holding both offices until January 10, 1905, when he was placed in the executive chair, and has retained this position ever since. Under his able management the business of the bank has increased very materially and it occupies a foremost place among similar institutions throughout the state. Mr. Thompson belongs to the American Bankers Association and the Illinois Bankers Association. Fraternally he is an Elk. The Second Congregational Church of Rockford holds his membership.

On January 10, 1883, Mr. Thompson was married to Adaline E. Emerson, a daughter of Ralph and Adaline E. (Talcott) Emerson. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson became the parents of three children, as follows: Norman F., Jr., who is secretary and treasurer of the Burson Knitting Co., resides in Rockford; Ralph E., who is superintendent of the Gillette Safety Razor Co., resides at Brookline, Mass.; and Adalyn, who was Mrs. Allan C. Dixon, of Chicago.

THOREN, Carl, foreman of the cabinet department of the Rockford Furniture Company, with residence at No. 1306 Third avenue, is one of the skilled workmen in his line at Rockford. He was born in Sweden, July 18, 1865. There he was educated and taught the cabinetmaking trade, working at it in his native land until he came to the United States in 1888, at which time he stopped at Ishpeming, Mich., for three years. He then located at Rockford, which has continued his home ever since. For eighteen years after his arrival in this city he was in the employ of the Scandia Furniture Company, and then for two years was on a farm. Returning to the city in 1912 he became a stockholder in

the Rockford Furniture Company, and was made its foreman in the fall of 1912.

In 1893 Mr. Thoren was married at Rockford, to Augusta E. Swenson, of Sweden. They have the following children: Norman, Stanley, Roy and Mildred, all of whom are at home. Mr. Thoren belongs to the Swedish Mission Church, in which he is a valued factor. In politics he is independent, but very often has exerted himself to support men and measures which he believed would prove beneficial to the people at large. In addition to his stock, Mr. Thoren owns city property.

THORNE, Artemus C., a veteran of the Civil war, clerk of Winnebago Township since 1872, and of the village of Winnebago since 1882, and one of the leading men of his section, was born at Taberg, Oneida County, N. Y., December 7, 1846, a son of Charles and Angeline (Grippen) Thorne, of English and German descent. They came to Winnebago County in 1858, settling in Durand Township. The father was a carpenter by trade, but after coming to this county he rented a farm of eighty acres. Before his marriage he built the first sawmill at Beloit, Wis. He was colonel of a regiment in the War of 1812. His death occurred in 1859 when he was about sixty-five years old. His children were as follows: Mary, who married John Chambers, now resides in Kansas; Artemus C.; and Celestia, who married Charles Treadwell, is deceased.

Artemus C. Thorne came to Durand Township, this county, with his parents, and in the spring of 1859 came to Winnebago Village where he was reared to manhood and learned the carpenter trade, which he followed nearly fifty years, retiring in 1907. In 1863, when he was only seventeen years old, Mr. Thorne enlisted as a private in Company I, One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for service during the Civil war, and was discharged at Chicago, and re-enlisted in February, 1864, in Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and after sixteen months' service he was again honorably discharged, at Springfield, Ill. He participated in several engagements, but was principally assigned to guard duty.

On November 3, 1868, Mr. Thorne was married to Martha, a daughter of Elanson and Salina (Rumsey) Benedict, of New York, who came to Winnebago County by herself. Mr. and Mrs. Thorne became the parents of four children: Mabel, who is the wife of Ulysses G. Dennison, a druggist of Winnebago; Mary, who is the wife of Burton Faulkner; Dora, who is the wife of Emmet Foley; and Charles A., who is a conductor on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. Mr. Thorne is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, and for thirty years has been a member of Winnebago Lodge No. 745, A. F. & A. M. He has a pleasant home in Winnebago, and is a highly esteemed resident of this county. As before stated, he has filled township and village offices for many years and has always been a loyal member of the Republican party.

THORNE, Ralph E., who is successfully conducting a billiard parlor and cigar store at No. 515 W. State street, Rockford, is one of the alert young business men of the city who is proving the truth of the assertion that this is the age of the young man. He was born February 15, 1894, a son of Charles H. and Adeline (Starks) Thorne, at Marengo, Ill. The father was born in the same town, but the mother was born in Pennsylvania. The father was a heavy stock feeder and breeder, having succeeded to his father's large agricultural holdings of lands and stock, the latter, Henry M. Thorne, having been one of the pioneers of Marengo, Ill. In 1912 Charles H. Thorne sold his interests and came to Rockford, where he bought a fine residence at No. 828 Garfield avenue, and there he is now living retired. The mother is also living. Both are members of the Methodist Church, and fraternally the father is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

After completing his studies in the public schools of Marengo, Ill., Ralph E. Thorne attended Brown's Business College at Rockford. He then took a position with the Eclipse Stove Company and held it for a year, when he engaged with the Kurtz Action Company for a year. Mr. Thorne then formed a partnership with Cooper & Thorne, tailors at No. 419 W. State street, but on November 1, 1914, he embarked in his present business, and has built up a large and profitable patronage. He still retains a half interest in the tailoring establishment at No. 419 W. State street.

THURSTON, Henry, page 648.

TICKNOR, James S., page 170.

TINKER, Robert H., now living retired at his beautiful home in Rockford, is an excellent example of the self-reliant, self-made man. He was born at Honolulu, Hawaii, December 31, 1836, a son of Reuben and Mary T. (Wood) Tinker, natives of Massachusetts. They went to the Hawaiian Islands in 1830, as Presbyterian missionaries, and remained there until 1840, when they returned to the United States and located in Lake County, Ohio. Later the father was called to a charge in Westfield, Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he died in 1854. The mother died about 1868, aged eighty-six years.

After he was fourteen years old, Robert H. Tinker had no educational opportunities. In 1856 he came to Rockford, after having been a clerk in a Westfield (N. Y.) bank for over four years, following the recommendation of William A. Knowlton, who had just taken charge of John H. Manny's estate at Rockford. Mr. Tinker became a clerk for Mr. Knowlton, and remained in this capacity until the two formed a partnership, buying their machines from Mrs. Manny. Three years later the factory owned by Mrs. Manny was placed in charge of Mr. Tinker, in whom Mrs. Manny from the first placed complete confidence. In July, 1862, Mr.

Tinker took a pleasure trip to Europe with Rev. J. H. Vincent, now Bishop Vincent, and was gone until April, 1863. After his return he took charge of the water power and Mrs. Manny's plant, and was a director of the former for a number of years. He was then made president of the water power and held that office for many years. He later was made president of the Chicago, Rockford & Northern Railroad, which was subsequently absorbed by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. Mr. Tinker managed the Manny interests, and conducted the business of the water power until 1915 when he sold it. He disposed of many acres of land for the railroad yards for freight and passenger purposes. Although now living retired, Mr. Tinker acts as one of the board of park commissioners.

On April 24, 1870, Mr. Tinker was married to Mrs. Mary (Dorr) Manny, widow of John H. Manny. She was born at Hoosic Falls, N. Y., August 30, 1829, a daughter of Josephus and Marshie (Ball) Dorr, of New York state. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Tinker was married (second) March 14, 1904, to Mrs. Jessie (Dorr) Hurd, widow of Guy C. Hurd. She was born at Hoosic Falls, N. Y., August 7, 1859. Mr. Tinker has no children, but has an adopted son, Theodore H., born June 15, 1908.

Politically Mr. Tinker is a Republican, and he was elected mayor of Rockford in the spring of 1875, and gave the city an intelligent and businesslike administration. At that time the city was struggling to pay for its water works.

On March 3, 1900, Mr. Tinker met with a deplorable accident, being struck by a railroad train, which resulted in the loss of his left foot.

His life throughout has shown unusual merit. His youth was spent in acquiring a grasp of the fundamental principles of business, and his maturity in putting this knowledge to practical purposes, and without doubt he is a citizen of the highest type. He has shown wonderful ability as a landscape gardener, and the Tinker residence is a beautiful Swiss cottage, one of the show places of Rockford. A regular attendant of the Second Congregational Church, he has served it as a member of the building committee.

TIPPLE, Robert C., one of the prosperous and experienced agriculturalists of Rockford Township, has done much to raise the standard of farming in Winnebago County. He was born at Chicago, Ill., May 7, 1862, a son of Robert and Ann (Kemp) Tipple, natives of England, who came to Chicago, about 1847. The father was engaged in brewing there, and spent the balance of his life in that city.

When Robert E. Tipple was one year old he was adopted by Robert Clark, of Chicago, who became very much attached to the little child. By the time he was eight years old his parents were in more affluent circumstances and tried to get him back, but as Mr. Clark would not waive his claims, the child remained in his possession. Robert lived with his adopted parents

at Chicago until 1865, when they brought him to Galva, Ill., and in the meantime they lived on a small farm at Union, McHenry County, and later he was brought to Rockford, in 1874. Mr. Tipple lived at Rockford until 1879, in a residence which he built and improved and he acquired other property, but traded it for 160 acres in Rockford Township where he has resided since 1879, being engaged in operating his farm.

On January 8, 1884, Mr. Tipple was married to Addie Emma Slaughter, born at Rochelle, Ill., a daughter of Daniel and Hannah (Parks) Slaughter, natives of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Slaughter had the following family: Mrs. Prentice; John F., who lives at Denver, Col.; William M., who lives at Sioux City, Iowa; Dana Parks, who is of Tacoma, Wash.; Mrs. Tipple; Vida, who is Mrs. Ernest Cross, of Rochelle, Ill.; and Stella M., who is Mrs. Fred Wetzel, of Ashton, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Tipple became the parents of the following children: George C., who is at home; Robert W., who is of Bloomington, Ill., married Jennie Dixon, and they have one son, Robert; Susie I., who is Mrs. Joseph Becker, of Freeport, Ill., has two children, Robert J. and George C.; Daniel S., who is of Indianapolis, Ind., married Effie Fingal; and Addie May, who is of Freeport, Ill., married Emil Pearson, and they have two children, Gladys M. and Ethel E. In politics Mr. Tipple is a Republican. An intelligent man and practical farmer, he stands high in his community and is justly regarded as one of the representative citizens of Winnebago County.

TRAHERN, W. D., page 709.

TROSTLE, F. W., secretary of the Rockford Leather Washer Company, with residence at No. 609 N. Church street, Rockford, sets forth in his career the fact that industry and thrift meet with their own reward and that success is possible to any man who is willing to be industrious and frugal. He was born near Liganore, Md., November 17, 1866, and was educated in the country schools of his native state and in the Rockford night schools.

Until he attained his majority, F. W. Trostle assisted his father, but at that time began learning the carpenter trade and worked at it for eight years at Ashton, Ill., and Rockford, the last two years being spent in this city. He then went with C. E. Sovereign and worked for him fourteen years, becoming one of the stockholders in the company and superintendent of the works. He left in 1910 to assist in organizing the Rockford Leather Washer Company, of which he was made secretary and treasurer. His practical knowledge and skill make him a potent factor in his company.

On November 2, 1903, Mr. Trostle was married at Buffalo, N. Y., to Myrtle Kendall, of Rockford, who was born in January, 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Trostle have a daughter, Dorothy B., who was born September 28, 1904. Mr. Trostle

is a member of the Elks. He belongs to the Court Street Methodist Church. In politics he is a Republican. In addition to his other interests Mr. Trostle owns stock in the West End Furniture Company and in the Sinnissippi Farm & Orchard Company in Bitter Root Valley.

TUITE, John E., M. D. One of the physicians and surgeons of Winnebago County who has a widespread reputation for professional ability and fully lives up to it, is Dr. John E. Tuite, who is conveniently located at No. 404 Trust building, Rockford, his residence being at No. 230 N. Church street. He was born in Ohio, July 20, 1864, a son of Christopher and Rose (Gormley) Tuite, natives of Ireland and early settlers of Ohio; both are now deceased. They were farming people.

Dr. Tuite attended the schools of Clark County, Ohio, and then taught for one term in the country schools and thus earned the money to complete an academic course at Springfield, Ohio. Following that he entered St. Ignatius College, Chicago, and was graduated therefrom in 1887, with the degree of B. A. After he had studied at Rush Medical College, Chicago, for one year, his health failed, and he was advised to try the climate of Texas, and following this advice he proceeded to San Antonio, and while there made the acquaintance of a shoe manufacturer of Rockford, Ill., and subsequently was made the agent to represent his goods throughout the entire South, and held that position for four years, being very successful.

In 1892 Mr. Tuite became interested in a retail shoe business at Rockford, but still retained his ambition to become a physician, and in 1896 re-entered Rush Medical College, and was graduated in 1900, with the degree of M. D. He won a fellowship at Rush Medical College but was obliged to resign on account of his wife's health. He returned to Rockford and established himself in this city as a physician, and has continued here ever since, becoming one of the best known medical men of the county. For several years he was consulting physician for Dr. Broughton's sanitarium, at Rockford, and is a member of the medical staff of the Rockford Hospital. He belongs to the Winnebago Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association and the American College of Surgeons. Fraternally he belongs to the Elks and Knights of Columbus.

In February, 1889, Dr. Tuite was married at Rockford, to Frances Schmauss, born August 19, 1862, at Rockford. She died March 23, 1901. Dr. and Mrs. Tuite had two children: Margaret, who was born August 26, 1892; and John, who was born August 6, 1896. On March 7, 1908, Dr. Tuite was married (second) to Emma McSweeney, of Rockford.

TULLOCK, George, page 662.

TUTHILL, William H., whose activities during life were directed along several divergent lines,

was a man who always commanded universal respect, and dying left behind him a name that is synonymous with honorable dealing and highest principles. Mr. Tuthill was born at Newburg, Orange County, N. Y., in August, 1851, a son of John Norton and Mary Elizabeth (Smith) Tuthill, natives of Orange County, N. Y. The parents came to Winnebago County, and bought land in Guilford Township. This they sold in 1869, and moved to Argyle, Ill., where the father worked at his trade of carpentering until 1880, when he moved to Mason City, Iowa, and there died. The mother later passed away at the same place. Their children were as follows: Jacob Nelson, who is deceased; Esther C., who is the widow of G. W. Stackpole, resides with Mrs. William H. Tuthill; and Isaac W. and William H., who are deceased.

William H. Tuthill remained with his parents until his marriage, in 1881, when he went to Mason City, Iowa, and was employed as a carpenter on railroad work for two years. He then came to Rockford where he followed his trade, and in 1896 opened a restaurant on E. State street. After this date he divided his time between the restaurant and his building operations, his wife being in charge of the restaurant when his other interests called him away. In 1902 he sold the restaurant and thereafter until his death, November 28, 1913, he devoted himself exclusively to his building business. Mr. Tuthill built many houses in various parts of the city, selling them when completed, and had some in course of construction when his sudden death occurred.

In November, 1881, Mr. Tuthill was married at Popular Grove, Ill., to Jennie Caddick, who was born at Popular Grove, a daughter of Isaac and Catherine (Bowder) Caddick, natives of England and Germany. There were no children of this marriage. Since the death of Mr. Tuthill, Mrs. Tuthill has lived at her residence, No. 513 Olive street, Rockford. In politics Mr. Tuthill was a Democrat. The Modern Woodmen of America held his fraternal membership. A man of strong purpose, he pushed ahead and was one of the energetic and successful men of his time.

TYLER, Silas D., although for many years a resident and landowner of Ogle County, had been well known in Winnebago County for a long period, and since 1897 until his death, on December 15, 1915, had been an honored citizen of Rockford. He was born at St. Lawrence, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., August 1, 1831, a son of Asa and Fannie (Tupper) Tyler of Montpelier, Vt. Of their thirteen sons and three daughters, Silas D. Tyler was the last survivor.

In 1832 the Tylers moved with their family to Ashtabula County, Ohio, and located in the town of Saybrook, where they lived until 1852, when they came to Belvidere, Ill., and bought a farm in Monroe Township, Ogle County. Prior to their removal to Ogle County, the father had driven from Ohio to Rockford, in 1847, returning home in the following spring by

way of Chicago, and thence by boat. He intended to stop at Milwaukee, but on account of a terrible storm coming up, the boat did not dock, and the cargo, 800 barrels of lard and 500 barrels of flour, shifted and was thrown overboard in twenty-two minutes. A remarkable occurrence was that all of this cargo was washed up at Milwaukee uninjured. The boat was stuck on the Racine sandbar for four days, after which return was made to Milwaukee for repairs, which took two weeks. The boat finally arrived at Cleveland, Ohio, and the father returned to Ashtabula by stage.

Until he was thirteen years old, Silas D. Tyler attended the schools of his district, and he was always useful to his father, both in Ohio and Illinois. After arrival in Monroe Township, he secured 160 acres of land by trading for it a team of horses. This property is now cut in two by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, and the town of Monroe is located in the center of this 160 acres. Mr. Tyler assisted his father and brothers in coopering, this being his father's trade, and having learned it himself, Mr. Tyler worked at it during the winter months, and farmed in the summer for many years. He kept on adding to his land until he owned three farms, 340 acres in all. This property is recognized to be the finest in all of Ogle County, and on it he carried on general farming and stock raising until 1897, when he retired, and came to Rockford. To provide a comfortable home, he bought a lot on N. Court street and erected a beautiful residence where he lived until death.

On October 17, 1860, Mr. Tyler was married to Francina Blakeman, born in Vermont, a daughter of Walter and Esther (Ward) Blakeman, and their children were: Charles C., who is ex-county treasurer of Ogle County, lives at Rockford; William B., who resides at Monroe Center, Ill., is a general merchant; Frederick W., who lives on the home farm; Addie, who is Mrs. Edwin Raup, resides at Monroe Center, Ill.; May, who is Mrs. James Thompson of Ogle County, Ill.; and Fannie Tyler Dunn, with whom Mr. Tyler resided. Mrs. Tyler died March 29, 1912. In politics Mr. Tyler was a Republican. A man of ample means, he had the satisfaction of knowing that he had earned his money through his own efforts and wise investments, and his standing in the community was deservedly high.

UPTON, Charles O., page 706.

UTTER, Isaac, page 706.

VAN ALSTINE, Margaret Isabell, one of the talented ladies of Winnebago County, has for some years been a leader in social circles at Rockford, and belongs to one of the old and honored families of this locality. She was born at Wempletown, this county, a daughter of Jacob G. and Margaret (Coventry) Van Alstine. The father was born at Glen, Montgomery County, N. Y., April 6, 1814, a son of John A., born at

the same place, and grandson of Abraham, who was also born at Glen, coming of Dutch ancestry. He served in the Revolutionary war. The maiden name of his wife was Quackenbush, and she and her husband died on the same day, in 1832.

Jacob Van Alstine was a carpenter, later a farmer, and seeking better living conditions moved to Michigan. He had once been a boatman on the Erie Canal, and later became the owner of a boat running on that canal, which he used for freighting between Buffalo and New York City, and he carried on that line of business for several seasons. In 1853 Jacob Van Alstine came to Winnebago County, and bought eighty acres of land in Burrit Township, seven acres of which were already broken. On this land there was a shell of a house which was set on blocks. This he repaired and lived in while he improved the land, splitting rails from the timber and selling them to gain additional money. For fifteen years he occupied this farm, and then sold and bought a farm on the state road in Winnebago County, seven miles west of Rockford, where he erected substantial frame buildings. In 1884 he retired, moved to Rockford, and erected a fine residence at No. 236 Rockton avenue. Later he sold and built another at No. 131 Hinkley avenue, where Miss Van Alstine now resides. He attended the Presbyterian Church. In politics he was a Republican.

On January 16, 1843, Jacob Van Alstine was married to Margaret Coventry, born at Utica, N. Y., a daughter of Dr. Alexander and Margaret (Van Vacton) Coventry. Dr. Coventry was born in Scotland and studied medicine at Edinburgh. Mr. and Mrs. Van Alstine became the parents of the following children: John W., who was killed in the Union cause during the Civil war; Charles, who died at Salt Lake City, Utah, in 1902; Jane, who died in February, 1905; Albert, who died aged eight months; Alonzo, who resides at Seattle, Wash.; Martha, who is Mrs. Benjamin Bilsorough of Kalaskel, Mont.; Mary, who is Mrs. Charles Luther, of Rockford; William, who resides in Idaho; Leonard, who lives at Ontario, Cal.; Margaret Isabell; Cyrenus, who lives at Ontario, Cal., and Clara, who died aged six years. The father of this family died June 13, 1906, and the mother died October 19, 1893.

Margaret Isabell Van Alstine resided with her parents, caring for them in their old age, and so devoting herself to their comfort that she won the commendation, admiration and respect of all who know her. She possesses considerable artistic talent and has produced some very creditable work in both oil and water colors. She is also an adept in china painting. For one year she visited with her sister and brothers in California, enjoying herself thoroughly, but preferred to return to her own home at Rockford as a permanent place of residence. No lady stands higher in public esteem and she has many warm personal friends in the city which has been her place of residence for so long.

VAN MATRE, Willard Naremore, president of the Schumann Piano Company, is one of the substantial business men of Rockford, and his success has been gained through knowledge of his special work and his ambition not to be satisfied until he had reached entire proficiency. He was born on a farm in northern Illinois in 1851, and traces his ancestry back to the Van Metrens who lived during the sixteenth century at Antwerp, Belgium. This family descended from Hrolf, the Viking Duke of the Normans. Jans Gybestin Van Matren and his son Jansen, landed at New Amsterdam in 1663, and locating at New Utrecht, on Long Island, N. Y., became the American progenitors of the family. Among their distinguished descendants was Col. Garrett Van Matre, an intimate personal friend of George Washington.

Willard N. Van Matre attended the high school of Monroe, Wis., from which he was graduated in 1869. His first business experience was gained in selling fruit trees, and he later embarked in sewing machine salesmanship. Subsequently he associated himself with the organ trade, becoming the representative on the road of the Chicago Cottage Organ Company. In 1885 he became a stockholder in that company, taking charge of the selling department. Branching out, in 1895 Mr. Van Matre became interested in the Smith & Barnes Piano Company, having charge of the correspondence and selling, holding the office of secretary. An expert salesman, Mr. Van Matre, however, was not satisfied but became desirous of building a piano in which he could embody his own ideas of construction and tone quality, and therefore bought in 1900, the controlling interest in the Schumann Piano Company. He started out to produce in the Schumann piano an instrument as good as many years of experience and ample capital would make. Accepting the best of modern construction, regardless of cost, he and his experts developed many novel ideas which are embodied in the construction of the Schumann piano.

The Schumann Piano Company was incorporated with a capital of \$300,000. The factory and general offices are located at Rockford, while the company has warerooms in the North American Building, Chicago. The officers of this company are: Willard N. Van Matre, president and treasurer; W. N. Van Matre, Jr., secretary. The Schumann pianos and player-pianos are of unquestioned merit and reputation and of the very highest grade. All bear the one name "Schumann" and are backed by the Schumann unlimited warranty.

The Schumann piano is noted for the many exclusive and improved features which it contains. One of these features of particular value from a tonal standpoint, is the system of dowel pin construction of the sounding board, ribs and bridges, doing away with any metal coming in contact with the sensitive sounding board, assuring a tone of exceptional depth and purity. Workmanship and material are of the highest

grade in these instruments. Schumann cases are of beautiful design and finish.

The factory at Rockford is very finely equipped, electric power being used and every facility being afforded for the production of a piano of the most artistic quality. Schumann pianos have been endorsed by many of the most noted artists. They are also very popular with dealers who are practical piano men, because of their special features of excellence. Schumann instruments are handled by a representative line of dealers from coast to coast. The Schumann player-piano is manufactured complete in the Schumann factory under their own patents, and contains a number of exclusive features. Purchasers are expressly cautioned against spurious or imitation Schumann pianos, several of which have appeared in the trade. All genuine Schumanns bear the Schumann head trade mark and the signature of W. N. Van Matre, president.

Mr. Van Matre was married to Minnie Sweetley, born at Winslow, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Van Matre have had two children, namely: Maud, who married L. R. Phillips, of Chicago, has two children, Hubert and Brooke; and Willard N., who married Erma Donnelly. The Van Matre residence is at No. 849 N. Church street, where the many friends of the family are hospitably entertained.

VAN MATRE, W. N., Jr., secretary of the Schumann Piano Company of Rockford, one of the live, alert young men of the city, is an important factor in this important industry. He was born at Chicago, August 19, 1889, and has devoted his life to piano making. In order to secure a thorough grounding in every detail of the business, he served for six years at the bench, and then for two years was assistant superintendent. For the next two years he was on the road for the company, so there is no branch of the business with which he is not familiar, and this fact is an important asset to him and the concern. He is associated with his father in the management of the business.

In 1911 Mr. Van Matre was married to Emma Donnelly, a daughter of Minnie and John H. Donnelly. Mr. Van Matre has not gone into public life, but he displays an intelligent interest in local matters, and is always in favor of anything looking towards further civic betterment.

VAN WIE, Edgar Allison. Each year the ranks of the veterans of the Civil war are thinned, and some of those who were brave men in peace as well as war aided very materially in the development of Winnebago County, among them being the late Edgar Allison Van Wie, of Rockford. He was born at Ira, N. Y., April 30, 1837, and died at Rockford, February 1, 1902. He was a son of Hon. Abram Haver Van Wie, born in Cayuga County, N. Y., April 22, 1816, and died March 23, 1903. The mother of Edgar A. Van Wie was Lydia (Osborn) Van Wie, born in New York State. After her death, her husband married (second) Minerva Swartz of New York.

His third wife was Emily Partridge of Elbridge, N. Y. Soon after his first marriage, the father moved to Sheboygan, Wis., and there became a farmer. He was elected a member of the state legislature and established a bank at Waupaca, Wis., which his son later conducted. About the close of the Civil war, he moved to Rockford, where he did gardening and farming and lived in retirement on S. Main street, where he died.

Edgar A. Van Wie enlisted for service during the Civil war in the Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was soon thereafter made a second lieutenant, but was later transferred to the First Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, and sent to Fort Cass. He was in the first battle of Bull Run. During the last year of the war he was acting inspector general of a brigade, having risen through sheer merit. He received his honorable discharge in 1865, and the following year came to Rockford. Upon his arrival he became a member of the hardware firm of Sovereign & Van Wie, but after three years sold and opened a music store which he conducted for some years. He then became a partner of William Dyson in a woolen mill at Rockford, and later became traveling special agent for the Singer Sewing Machine Company, operating from their St. Louis office for five years. He then associated himself with his father in conducting the Rockford Burial Case Company, of which he was one of the organizers. For six years he served this company as secretary and treasurer, and then held the same offices in the Rockford Electric Company, but about eight years before his death, he retired.

On April 17, 1873, Mr. Van Wie was married to Flora I. Brady, born in Burrit Township February 7, 1849, a daughter of Charles P. and Mary L. (Huntsman) Brady, he of Bucks County, Pa., and she of Darke County, Ohio. Mr. Brady was born December 14, 1814, and died June 27, 1893, and Mrs. Brady was born July 2, 1814, and died October 5, 1883. They were married January 12, 1842, in Winnebago County, Ill., to which he had come in 1836, but after a short time returned to Pennsylvania, coming back to Winnebago County in 1840, taking up his residence in Burrit Township, he having secured from the government land in Burrit Township and Harrison Township. In 1861 he traded this land for Rockford property.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Wie became the parents of the following children: Ethel Lydia, who was born January 23, 1874, married October 11, 1909, John L. Zaugg of New York City and have one daughter, Charlotte; Ada May, who was born April 3, 1876, married Robert A. Gross, of Rockford, on November 11, 1903; and Earl J., who was born January 19, 1878, married October 16, 1912, Hazel Johnston, and lives at Boston, Mass. Mr. Van Wie attended the Methodist church, to which his widow belongs. In politics he was a Republican. He was a member of the Masonic order, and Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. Mrs. Van Wie belongs to the Menselssohn Club and the Woman's Club.

VARNER, Howard C., superintendent and manager of the Rockford Upholstering Company, with residence at No. 608 Elm street, is a man who has risen steadily, not through the influence of wealth or outside assistance, but because of his own natural ability, industry, thrift and foresight. He was born at Senatobia, Miss., April 19, 1877, and there educated, being graduated from the high school of that place in 1897.

Beginning his career as a self-supporting person as a clerk in a drug store, he continued in that line for seven years, and then went to St. Joseph, Mo., and entered a manufacturing line, so continuing for fourteen years, gaining thereby a varied experience and a knowledge of men. During this period he associated himself with the Talge Lounge Company. He later was connected with the Varner Furniture Company of St. Joseph, and when the plant was sold Mr. Varner came to Rockford, and in 1915 assumed the duties of his present position with the Rockford Upholstering Company, for which his former experiences made him particularly well adapted.

Mr. Varner was married at St. Joseph, Mo., April 29, 1902, to Emma O. Stinson, born in that city. They have one daughter, Lalla Rookh. Mr. Varner belongs to the First English Lutheran Church. In politics he is independent. A man of means, he owns city property at St. Joseph, Mo., and is held in the highest esteem there and at Rockford, both as a business man and public-spirited citizen.

VESTAL, Alonzo E., engineer for the Rockford Manufacturing Company, with residence at No. 611 Prairie street, is not only chief of his department, but owner of his home and a man of influence among his associates. He was born in Ogle County, Ill., in 1864. At the age of three years he moved with his parents to Winnebago County, where he worked on a farm until he was eighteen years old. At that time he left home and went to Kansas and spent eight years in that state and in Indian Territory and Missouri, working in zinc and lead mines. He was also in Wisconsin for a short period, but in 1892 came to Rockford where he entered the employ of the City Railway Company as fireman and assistant engineer. A short time thereafter, however, he left to go with Emerson & Talcott, now the Emerson-Brantingham Company, and was with that firm for a few months. Mr. Vestal then went with the McDermott Churn Company, and then was with the Union Furniture Company for two years, and for some time afterward was with various other plants. In 1907 he went with the Schmaus Company and remained until 1915, when he was offered the position of chief engineer by his present company, and accepting, found congenial surroundings, and has given the company the services of a very valuable man.

In November, 1892, Mr. Vestal was married at Rockford to Bertha Fischer of Germany, and their children are as follows: Iva Grace, Harry, Raymond, Bertha, Frank, Eugene and Robert, all of whom are living, and John, who died in in-

fancy. Iva married Harry Swope and has one child, Lucile. Mr. Vestal is independent in politics. He is a man widely known and universally liked, and his responsibilities are admirably met.

WAGNER, Jacob W. Rockford has long been an objective point to those men who having retired from agricultural labor seek a residence where they can enjoy the comforts of urban life. Among those who have thus shown appreciation of Rockford's advantages, is Jacob W. Wagner. He was born in Williamsburg, Northampton County, Pa., October 29, 1842, a son of Peter A. and Rachel (Eyer) Wagner, he born in Germany, and she in Northampton County, Pa. Peter A. Wagner came at the age of twenty years, in 1820, from Germany to New York state, and from there to Williamsburg, Pa., where he conducted a boot and shoe manufacturing establishment until 1852 when he came as far west as Freeport, Ill. Later he bought land in Wisconsin joining Stephenson County, Ill., on which he lived until 1875, when he retired and was with his children until his death in 1880. His wife died in 1872. Their children were as follows: Fredreka, who is deceased, was Mrs. Daniel Brobst; Amelia, who married Elisha Kirby and both are deceased; Mary, who died in 1861; Malinda, who took care of her parents until their death, is now deceased; Jacob W., and Harrison and Alvin, both of whom live in Chicago.

Jacob W. Wagner was educated in the schools in his district, and lived with his parents until he enlisted for service during the Civil war, on August 27, 1862, in Company I, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, at Davis, Ill. He was at Camp Fuller, Rockford, for some time and then was sent to Louisville, Ky., where he joined the main army starting after General Bragg, participating in the battle at Perryville, Ky. From there the regiment went to Bowling Green, Nashville and Chattanooga and Mr. Wagner was in all the battles of his command until June 21, 1864, when at the battle of Kennesaw Mountain he was shot in the right knee and a bullet passed through his leg. His injury was so serious that he was sent to the hospital of Big Shanty, Ga., transferred to that at Chattanooga, thence to the one at Louisville, and was finally sent to that at Mound City, Ill. He then took a furlough of twenty days and arrived home in time to cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, his father going with him, although he was a Douglas Democrat, but loyal to the Union. Returning to Mound City while still on crutches, he was confined for another three weeks in the hospital and then sent to the government office at Cairo, Ill., from whence he went to rejoin his regiment at Nashville, and was discharged June 10, 1865, as sergeant, having been a brave and faithful soldier.

Returning home Mr. Wagner remained with his father until 1867 when he rented a farm in Rock Grove Township, Stephenson County, for three years, and then bought a farm of 120 acres in Byron Township, Ogle County, Ill., where he

lived until 1906, in which year he rented his farm and retired to Rockford where he invested in city property.

On March 28, 1867, Mr. Wagner was married to Marthana L. Barker, from Rock Grove, Ill., a daughter of Schuyler and Philura (Blake) Barker, natives of Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner became the parents of the following children: Timothy E., married Francis Scott, issue, Scott and Charles; Mary, who is Mrs. C. J. Clothier, of Rockford, was a teacher in the public schools for many years, issue, Ernest, Chillis, Milton and Mabel; Lura, who is the wife of William Robinson, of New Milford Township, was also a teacher for many years, has one daughter, Evelyn; Bertha, who is Mrs. Niel Nicholson of Cavalier County, N. Dak.; Cora, who was a teacher, is now Mrs. J. C. McLaughlin of Rockford and has one son, Earl; and Ray, who is at home, married Hattie Bradt. Mr. Wagner is a Methodist and has been a trustee of his church since 1894. A Republican, he held various township offices in Byron Township. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., holds his membership.

WALDO, Hiram H., page 663.

WALKER, Mrs. Freda Pearson, who owns and conducts one of the leading millinery establishments of Rockford, is conveniently located at No. 301 Seventh street. She was born in Oland, Sweden, October 13, 1875, a daughter of John and Britta (Larson) Pearson. John Pearson sailed from his native land for the United States in 1880, and located at Rockford where he found employment with the old Scandia Plow Works, and remained for a number of years, later going with the chair and furniture company on Railroad avenue. After twelve years he left that concern and became associated with the Union Furniture Company, but soon thereafter retired and lived at his beautiful home at No. 1142 Thirteenth street, until his death, June 1, 1907, aged seventy-five years. The mother of Mrs. Walker survives, and lives with her daughter at No. 1137 Fourth avenue.

Mrs. Walker was only five years old when she was brought to the United States, and she was reared at Rockford, and educated in its schools. After leaving school she engaged with the Potter Bros. millinery and dry goods establishment and was retained by this concern for a number of years. She was then employed at Wortham's department store and was retained in this position until the store was destroyed by fire, when she went to Iowa City, Iowa, and became manager of the main floor of Wortham's store at that place, there remaining until 1903, when she returned to Rockford to engage with Anton Hill as manager of his millinery department. After three years in this position, she was associated with Miss Ida Liljeholm, in a millinery business, buying out her partner within three years, and continuing it at No. 422 Seventh street until 1914, when she moved to her present location.

Here she has built up an elegant trade and controls a large business.

In 1907 she married E. W. Walker of Erie, Pa., who, at present, is an inspector for the Free Sewing Machine Company of Rockford. A true artist, Mrs. Walker takes pride in her creations, and her taste and innate refinement are shown in her work.

WALKER, Samuel H., now living practically retired at Rockford, is one of the veterans of the Civil war, and a former agriculturist of Winnebago County. He was born in Lawrence County, Pa., July 4, 1840, a son of James and Jane (Hezlep) Walker, both natives of Pennsylvania. After the death of his first wife, James Walker married (second) a Mrs. Dow, a sister of his first wife. He was a painter, and died in Lawrence County.

Samuel H. Walker left home when fifteen years old, and came to Oswego, Ill., where he lived with an uncle, James Marquis, on his Kendall County farm. Here he attended the public schools and learned farming in all its details. On December 29, 1863, Samuel H. Walker enlisted for service during the Civil war in Company C, Fourth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, and was assigned to the department of the Mississippi. In June, 1865, this regiment consolidated with the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, and was in Louisiana and Texas, and Mr. Walker was discharged from it at Houston, Tex., May 29, 1866. For three years following his discharge from the army, Mr. Walker worked at Oswego, Ill., and then in 1869 he located in Leaf River Township, Winnebago County, where he worked among the farmers, and farmed on his own account until in April, 1906, when he moved to Rockford, and has lived retired ever since, although for a portion of the time he was a partner in the Eclipse Gas Works.

On January 1, 1870, Mr. Walker was married to Lydia Williar, of Dauphin County, Pa., a daughter of Jacob and Lydia (Troutman) Williar, of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Walker became the parents of the following children: Oscar R., who resides at DeWitt, Neb.; Nora, who is Mrs. Bursell Fountain, of Rockford; Blanche, who is Mrs. Henry A. Palmer, of Winnebago County; and Elmer, who is a resident of Rockford. Mrs. Walker died November 27, 1912, having been a true Christian woman and devoted wife and mother. She was a member of the Central Christian Church, of which Mr. Walker is also a member. In politics he is a Republican. Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R., holds his membership. He is one of the best representatives of the retired farmer class in the county, and his prosperity has been earned through his own efforts.

WALKUP, Liberty. The career of Liberty Walkup, secretary and treasurer of the Air Brush Manufacturing Company, of Rockford, is one which has been filled with diversified experiences. On several occasions he has placed himself in a position of financial independence,

only to see the fruits of years of labor swept away by misfortune, but through all vicissitudes, he has not allowed himself to become disheartened, and as a result he is today known as one of the successful business men of Winnebago County. Mr. Walkup is a native son of Illinois, born in Pine Creek Township, Ogle County, July 14, 1844, his parents being Samuel and Sophia L. (Ruggles) Walkup. Samuel Walkup was born in Pennsylvania and his wife in Ohio, and they were early settlers of Ogle County, Ill., to which he came in 1836. They were there married and passed the remainder of their lives, Mr. Walkup being a farmer.

Liberty Walkup, who was reared in a Christian family, was named in commemoration of the sentiment which inspired the landing in America of the Pilgrim Fathers. He was an energetic and industrious lad and in his youth learned to face the hardships and dangers of life, his first occupation being the watching of sheep, to protect them from the wolves, when he was only eight years of age. At that time also there were many deer in this part of the country and bands of Indians still roamed the woods and prairies. His early education was confined to the primitive district schools. He was eighteen years of age when he enlisted, in August, 1862, for service in the Civil war, at Mount Morris, Ill., in Company K, Ninety-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, his regiment being ordered to Covington, Ky. During the first winter, Mr. Walkup contracted a severe case of measles which incapacitated him for further service, and he was finally honorably discharged because of disability, in April, 1863. During the next two years he applied himself assiduously to completing his education, with the result that he was able to secure employment as a school-teacher and continued thus in Ogle County for three years. He was then attracted to Tama County, Iowa, where for two years he cultivated a farm of eighty acres, but because of poor health was compelled to sell out, and subsequently bought a general store at Indiantown, Iowa. When he sold this business, two years later, Mr. Walkup took an agency and traveled for the American Bible Society. Two years later he returned to Illinois and became a cheese and buttermaker in Carroll County. In this business he was so unfortunate as to have two fires, in the latter of which he lost everything he possessed and was forced to commence all over again.

It was at this time, when he had naught left but his hands and his fertile brain, that Mr. Walkup gave himself up to inventing. He finally conceived the idea of an air brush, and after six months, realizing that he had an article which was bound to succeed, came to Rockford, Ill., in December, 1881, in order to secure better facilities. The first patent was issued for this invention in 1882, and was the first for any similar article ever granted by the United States Patent Office. Mr. Walkup was compelled to put his brush upon the market, in order to secure capital for its manufacture, and then or-

ganized a stock company, but being unable to control the majority of stock, was promised a royalty by his associates. Instead of living up to their agreement, they endeavored to "freeze him out," but he was finally able to secure a loan, with which he purchased a majority of the stock, and since 1890, when he assumed control, has put the business on a paying basis. For over seven years prior to this, the business had only paid 16% dividends. During the first year he had control he paid dividends of 19%, and in the second year 23% was realized. In 1895 Mr. Walkup again experienced loss by fire, when his plant and everything in it, save several tools, were destroyed. At this time he was advised by many to make an assignment, but he had been reared to carefully meet all engagements and obligations and preferred to pay in full, which has been his policy to the present time, and his business reputation is one of the best in the city and his name today is an honored one on commercial paper. As secretary and treasurer and directing manager of the Air Brush Manufacturing Company, he has had as many as twelve men at times employed at his plant.

On October 7, 1868, Mr. Walkup was married to Miss Phebe C. Johnson, who was born in Ohio, daughter of William and Margaret (Noe) Johnson, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of New Jersey, and to this union there was born one daughter: Eva, who died aged three years. Mr. Walkup is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and is popular with his comrades in Nevius Post No. 1. He is a stalwart Presbyterian, and has been an elder in the church since 1886. In political matters he was formerly a Republican, but of late years has been a supporter of prohibition. He has never tasted liquor nor tobacco, and has always assisted movements of a temperance character. One of his public services was his success in bringing the Chautauqua exercises to Harlem Park. He is a member of the Law and Order League, with which he has been connected for thirty years, and through his efforts the first registration of voters was secured, and many measures encouraged to suppress the all too prevalent rowdyism of public gatherings.

WALCK, Levi. There must be considerable satisfaction to a man when he can look back over years of useful endeavor, from the vantage point of peaceful retirement from former labors. One of the retired men of Rockford who has earned the years of rest he is now enjoying, is Levi Walck of No. 815 Elm street. He was born in old York County, Pa., February 6, 1841, a son of George H. and Elizabeth (Flory) Walck, natives of York County, Pa.

Levi Walck was educated in the common schools of Pennsylvania, and remained at home until he enlisted for service in the Civil war, in September, 1862, in the Fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. He was in the campaign about Richmond and Cold Harbor, in the battle

of Petersburg, and in many skirmishes, and was never wounded. He was twice taken prisoner but escaped on both occasions and got to the Union lines. On June 19, 1865, he was honorably discharged and mustered out at Richmond, Va., after which he returned to York County, Pa. In August of that same year he left York County for Freeport, Ill., and became a stationary engineer and so continued for fourteen years, when he embarked in a cooping business and conducted it successfully until 1882, then he moved to Rockford, and continued in the same line for some time. He was then made car inspector for the Illinois Central Railroad and so remained until 1911, when he was placed on the retired list of the road.

On July 25, 1875, Mr. Walck was married at Freeport, Ill., to Margaret Bookman, born in Lancaster County, Pa., a daughter of George and Eliza (Gilbert) Bookman, natives of England and Pennsylvania. In 1869 the Bookman family moved to Freeport, Ill., where the father was a day laborer. Both he and the mother died at Freeport, in which city their children were educated. Mr. and Mrs. Walck became the parents of two children: Elsie C., who became Mrs. Charles Baird, died at the age of twenty-eight years, leaving a daughter, Marguerite, who has been reared by Mr. Walck; and Lulu E., who is Mrs. Charles Bryant of Rockford and has two children, Naomi Mae and Florence Marian. In politics Mr. Walck is a Republican. He is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., which he joined in 1882. He was one of the charter members of John A. Davis Post, Freeport, Ill. He receives a pension from both the railroad and the government. He belongs to the fraternal order of Woodmen of America. Mrs. Walck belongs to the Mystic Workers and the Woman's Relief Corps, and helped to organize the Ninety-five Club, in 1895, of which she had been president, vice president and treasurer prior to her election to the office of secretary, which she still holds. Mr. Walck is one of the representative men of Rockford and has fairly earned the esteem in which he is held.

WALTON, O. J., manager of the Chicago Market, at No. 219 S. Main street, Rockford, is engaged in supplying the people of this city with pure food at reasonable prices, and his success demonstrates his ability and foresightedness. He was born at West Cleveland, Ohio, May 16, 1888, a son of John and Charlotte (Kerr) Walton. The father was born in England, and the mother in Ontario, Canada. In young manhood the father left England for Cleveland, Ohio, where he became a landscape gardener, and both he and wife now live retired at their home on Lake avenue, Cleveland.

O. J. Walton was reared at Cleveland and given the educational advantages offered in that city. When he was seventeen years old he began his business career with the Cleveland Provision Company, at Cleveland, later going to Chicago where he was employed by the Armour Packing

Company, and remained with them for seven years. For a short time he was with the Stein Kinney Company of Racine, Wis., and in July, 1911, came to Rockford to assume the duties of his present position for which his long and varied experience admirably fitted him.

In 1912 Mr. Walton was married to Miss Eliza Benjamiu, a daughter of Robert Benjamin of Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Walton belongs to the Yeomen and the order of Beu Hur, and is popular in both. A man of sound ideas and excellent business judgment, he has conducted the affairs of his house ably and successfully, and certainly belongs among the representative men of Rockford, or indeed of this part of the state.

WALTON, William, vice president of the Rockford Mitten & Hosiery Company, with residence at No. 948 N. Church street, is an example of the prosperous, reliable, and substantial business man of Rockford, and one whose present prosperity is the outgrowth of his own industry. He was born in Yorkshire, England, December 17, 1844, a son of John and Hannah (Mitchell) Walton, both of whom died in England.

William Walton was educated in the public schools of England. When only thirteen and one-half years of age he went into a factory as an apprentice and learned the trade of cotton and woolen spinning. Hard work and close application resulted in a breakdown and his physician insisted that it was necessary for him to leave his surroundings and get out of doors. In 1874 he came to the United States, and for a year was employed in the Washington Mills at Lawrence, Mass., then went to Philadelphia, Pa., and became superintendent of the P. C. Garrett Mills. A year later he went to St. Charles, Mo., and there conducted a small mill for William Ziock, Sr., who is now deceased. In 1886 a company was formed and the plant was moved to Rockford, Mr. Walton coming with it. The present officers are: William H. Ziock, president and treasurer; William Walton, vice president; and C. E. Heileger, secretary. At the commencement of the Rockford history of this plant, the quarters were restricted, and the product was limited, but now substantial buildings house the outfit, and employment is given to 500 men and women. The output is very large and is sold over a large territory.

In 1878 Mr. Walton was married to Alma A. Burbank, of New Hampshire, and they have three children, Annie B., Mary H. and Helen A., all of whom are at home.

WARD, Frank. Among those who are numbered with Rockford's honored dead, occurs the name of the late Frank Ward, who, during life, was president and manager of the Ward Pump Company, one of the important industrial concerns of the city. He was a man of broad outlook and acute business perception, and in his death the city lost one of its best citizens. He was born near Aylmer, Canada, May 30, 1835, a

son of Mark A. and Maria A. (Johnson) Ward. When he was seventeen years old, the family came to Winnebago County, locating in New Milford Township, where the father carried on farming, passing away when forty-nine years old. The mother survived the father many years, living to be ninety-six years old, and dying at the home of her daughter Martha, on S. First street, Rockford.

The educational training of Frank Ward was acquired in Canada. His first business connections were with the Fountain Foundry, where he remained for three years, then leaving to locate at Rockford, where he engaged with the F. H. Manney Reaper Company as a moulder and reaper maker. Later he went with the Emerson Manufacturing Company as a moulder, and then was foreman for Mr. Graham, leaving the latter in a short time to establish himself in a foundry business of his own on the old water power, and there remained for a number of years, when he bought the present site of the Ward Pump Company, and built its plant. The beginnings of this company were in a small shop, but in 1889 he incorporated the members of his family into a company, and added to his plant from time to time. At first he made castings for plants all over the country, but the business is now confined to the manufacture of pumps of various types. Mr. Ward was president of his company until his death, July 31, 1908, when he was seventy-three years old, and it was at his request that his daughter, Miss Mary E. Ward, succeeded him. The widow survives and she and Miss Mary reside at their beautiful home at 308 S. Third street. She was born in eastern Pennsylvania and came with her parents to Rockford in the early days. They located near New Milford, this county, where the father became a heavy landowner, and operated his property until his death in 1877. The mother passed away on the farm. In addition to his other interests, Mr. Ward owned and operated two large farms of 600 acres in Stillman Valley, and also owned his residence at Rockford. Mr. Ward was always a Republican in political affiliation.

There are five children in this family: Elmer D., who lives on South First street, Rockford, married Anna Wetenhall, and they have the following children: Frank R. and Ralph E., and Mark A. of Michigan; Flora Belle, who is Mrs. J. W. Lamont of East State street, Rockford, has the following children: Helen, J. Walter and Harry K.; Carrie E., who married O. W. Johnson, has two children: Bruce W. and Wilfred H.; and Miss Mary E.

Miss Mary E. Ward owns the controlling interests in the Ward Pump Company, and represents the family stockholders as president of the company. She is a very capable lady of excellent business judgment, and is efficiently carrying out the policies of her father, tempered by the changes made necessary by existing conditions.

WARD, Frank R. The increasing use of electricity has developed men of skill and ability to install the various appliances and one who has

forged to the front in this class of work is Frank R. Ward of No. 112 S. Second street, Rockford. He was born at Rockford, September 10, 1889, a son of Elmer D. and Anna (Wetenhall) Ward.

Elmer D. Ward was born at Rockford and here received his education. His father was the founder of the Ward Pump Company, and Elmer D. Ward learned this business from his father and remained in it all his active life. He is now living retired, still retaining stock in the concern to which he has given so much of his time. His residence is at No. 219 S. First street, and he is one of the most highly respected men of Rockford. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a thirty-second degree Mason, and in politics he is a Republican. The mother was born in Connecticut, and her father was a native of England. He left that country in young manhood, and coming to the United States, settled in Connecticut where the mother was born. Later Mr. Wetenhall took his family to New Jersey, where he worked as a watchmaker and still later came as far west as Springfield, Ohio, where he continued to work as a watchmaker. Once more he made a change, and came to Rockford, Ill., where he engaged with the Rockford Watch Company. Later he went to Los Angeles, Cal., where he embarked in a jewelry business and remained in it until his retirement. He died in 1914, and Mrs. Wetenhall in 1903, both passing away in California.

Frank R. Ward was educated at Rockford, and in the Northwestern Military and Naval Academy, where he took a three years' course in electrical engineering. After coming home he took a position with the Ward Pump Company, but four years later left it to go to Mitchell, S. Dak., where he went into a hotel business. After eighteen months, he sold and returned to Rockford to engage with the Wigell Electric Company. Within two and one-half years he went into an electrical business for himself at No. 112 S. Second street.

On November 8, 1911, Mr. Ward was married to Miss Irma Vogel, a daughter of E. H. and Dorothy (Schnell) Vogel of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Vogel are both of German descent and are living at Rockford at No. 1334 Camp avenue. Mr. Vogel is one of the stockholders in the C. F. Henry Clothing Company, and has been connected with this firm for thirty-two years, now being head manager of the men's clothing department.

WARD, John C., whose name is well remembered in connection with his farming operations in several of the townships of Winnebago County, spent his declining years at Rockford, being one of the substantial residents of this city. He was born in Waterbeach, England, August 27, 1830, where his parents died. In 1845, when still a lad, he came alone to the United States, and worked in a foundry in New York City for some years. Later he went to Taberg, N. Y., where he lived until 1865, in that year moving to Winnebago County, Ill. and for probably two years operated a farm in Harlem Township.

He then went to New Milford Township and conducted a farm until 1892, in which year he moved to Rockford and for two years lived on Benton street. Mr. Ward then bought a lot and built a modern residence at No. 205 Summit street, where he died March 15, 1914, his wife having passed away November 3, 1912, both being buried in Cedar Bluff Cemetery.

In 1852 Mr. Ward was married at Taberg, N. Y., to Nancy Culver, born at Rome, N. Y., March 29, 1837. Their children were as follows: E. J., who lives at Monroe Center, Ill.; Charles, who lives at Alexandria, S. Dak.; Daniel, who lives in Missouri; Jerome, who lives at Waukegan, Ill.; Warren, who lives on Davis street, Rockford; Nellie, who is Mrs. S. J. Lindsay of Oregon, Ill.; and Effie Mae.

Miss Effie Mae Ward was educated in the public schools of Rockford, and gave her parents tender care until death claimed them. Since 1897 she has found employment for her energies as a dressmaker, and since December, 1914, has conducted her business at her residence, which she owns. Some of the leading ladies of Rockford depend upon her skill and excellent taste for their gowns. Miss Ward is associated with the State Street Baptist Church of Rockford. She belongs to the Eastern Star and the White Shrine of Jerusalem, and is a lady of wide acquaintance and has many friends.

WARNER, L. F., page 664.

WARNER, Norman C., page 721.

WARREN, Ezra Horace, proprietor of the prosperous transfer and storage business at No. 223 S. Main street, is one of the leading men in his line at Rockford, and no one stands higher in public esteem. He was born at Rockford, May 28, 1878, a son of Asa and Sarah (Knight) Warren. The father was born in Durand, Winnebago County, Ill., and the mother in Harrison Township, this same county. Until 1875, the father was a farmer, but in that year moved to Rockford, and located on Kilbourne avenue, where he died in 1910, aged sixty-two years. The mother died at Rockford, in 1893, aged thirty-nine years. The paternal grandfather was born in New York state and came west in the early days, locating in Durand Township, this county, where he took up government land, and in addition to farming he carried on blacksmithing, there dying. The grandmother died at Rockford.

Ezra Horace Warren was reared and educated at Rockford, and his first employment was with the Hess-Hopkins Company, with which he remained for one year. He then went with the Rockford Packing Company and continued with it for six years. Having saved some money, he decided to go into business on his own account, and bought a team and began teaming and expressing. Later he added additional teams, and in 1905 established his transfer business, doing all the teaming for the Rockford Gas Company for fourteen years, and conducting a

large draying business, operating thirty-five teams for the gas company. He has also held contracts for teaming for the Warren-Carrie Stone Company, and for road construction. His original location was on South Avon street, but he subsequently moved to No. 223 S. Main street, his present place of business. At present he is operating twelve teams, one dray and two vans, and he controls an immense business.

In 1899 Mr. Warren married Miss Mary Diamond, a daughter of George and Ellen Diamond, and they have six children, as follows: Dorothy, Mary, Irwin, John, George, and Ellen. A man of progressive spirit, Mr. Warren has steadily advanced, and his honorable methods and capability and reliability have gained him the entire confidence of the public.

WATERMAN, J. D., president of The Forest City National Bank, is the oldest bank president in the city of Rockford, and an excellent representative of the sound, reliable, conservative financier whose connection with any institution of this kind gives prestige and insures safe management. He was born at Decatur, Otsego County, N. Y., a son of Hamilton and Mary (Utter) Waterman.

Until he was sixteen years old, Mr. Waterman attended the little red schoolhouse which has passed into history, and then began to be self-supporting as he went into a general store and clerked for eighteen months. He then, in 1864, enlisted in the naval service, and was on the flag ship of Admiral Porter and saw considerable service. After his return, he completed his education in the public schools of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and then went into railroad work as a telegrapher on the Albany & Susquehanna Railroad. From that road he went with the Union Pacific Railroad and remained with it until 1871. In that year he came to Rockford and was with the Chicago & Northwestern Railway in this city. Later he served for two terms as postmaster of Rockford, and then assisted in the organization of the Forest City National Bank, of which he has been president since it opened its doors for business in June, 1890.

In August, 1871, Mr. Waterman was married at Rockford to Emma J. Wolford, a daughter of Erskile and Jane (Rowley) Wolford, who came to Rockford from Worcester, N. Y., in 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Waterman have no children of their own, but they adopted Lillian J. Jones when young, giving her their name, but she died when fourteen years old. Fraternally Mr. Waterman is a Mason and an Elk, and belongs to the G. A. R. He attends the Court Street Methodist Church, of which his wife is a member. He is a Jeffersonian Democrat and for twelve years was chairman of the county congressional committee. During President Cleveland's two administrations Mr. Waterman served as postmaster of Rockford and gave the city an efficient service. He is a man widely known and universally respected, for he possesses those qualities which go so far toward making a desirable citizen.

WATERSTREET, Fred J., manager of and a stockholder in the Winnebago Produce and Supply Company, one of the solid institutions of the village of Winnebago, was born in Nenkahlen Mechlenburg-Schwein, Germany, April 21, 1869, a son of William and Marie (Anders) Waterstreet, who came to the United States in 1873, locating in Seward Township, Winnebago County, Ill., where the father was employed on a farm for two years. In 1890 he left a farm he rented in 1875, and moving to Winnebago Township, made that his home until his death, June 26, 1914, when seventy-nine years old. His children were as follows: Sophia, who married Henry Sherman; Minnie, who married Fred Schmooch; and Fred J., Herman J. and Ernest H., all of whom reside in Winnebago County.

Fred J. Waterstreet was reared in Seward Township, and followed farming until 1910 when he became connected with the Winnebago Produce and Supply Company, and has been its manager since March, 1913. On October 5, 1893, he married Adeline, a daughter of Amos E. and Lauretta (Jennings) Miller of Winnebago Township, whose father was born at Vernon, Oneida County, N. Y., September 26, 1844, and came to this county in March, 1855, and married December 23, 1869, his wife having been born in Winnebago Township, May 20, 1849. Their children are as follows: Adeline E. (Waterstreet); Alice A. (James); Jessie L. (Jones); Niles A.; Louisa J.; and Dorothy. Mr. Miller was a prosperous farmer of Winnebago Township, where he resided until his death, in May, 1913.

Joseph Miller, great-great-grandfather of Mrs. Waterstreet, was born at Middletown, Conn., June 25, 1723, married Sarah Wetmore, who was of English descent, and born near Middletown, Conn., in 1722. Joseph Miller, great-great-grandfather, was born December 26, 1752, and married Lydia Stone and settled at Granville, Mass. Eleakim Miller, great-grandfather, was born at Granville, Mass., January 1, 1764, and married M. Rhoda Pratt. Amos Miller, grandfather, was born at Granville, Mass., November 4, 1809, and was taken by his parents to Annsville, N. Y., in 1813. He spent the greater part of his life in Oneida County, N. Y., but from 1852 to 1854 was in California. In 1855 he came to Winnebago County, purchased 200 acres of land, upon which he made many improvements, and continued his farming operations until his death, which occurred in 1873, when he was in his sixty-fourth year. He married November 4, 1835, Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Storring) Tygert, and their children were as follows: Niles, Cyrus A., Henry H., Mary E., who married Edwin Ware, Amos E., Richard, Thomas N. and Josiah F. Mr. and Mrs. Waterstreet have no children. They reside at Alworth Station, in Winnebago Township. Mr. Waterstreet is a public-spirited man, a member of Winnebago Lodge No. 745, A. F. & A. M., and M. W. A. No. 59. He served two terms, four years, as assessor of Winnebago Township, being elected on the Republican ticket.

WEBBER, Henry A. The name of Webber is associated with the pioneer history of Winnebago County, for it was founded here in 1859 by William Webber, a most estimable man and successful farmer who developed large agricultural interests in Rockton Township. His son, Henry A. Webber, has continued to maintain the family prestige and is now one of the substantial men of the county. He was born in Somersetshire, England, August 9, 1837, while his father, William, was born in the same place in March, 1801, and died at the age of eighty-five years, while visiting a daughter in Burrit Township, Winnebago County. William Webber was a large landowner in Somersetshire, and when he decided to come to America, his property was sold at auction, taking three days to dispose of it. The auction was like a fair, tents being erected for the accommodation of the crowds, while food and drink was provided in the old English style.

After landing at New York City with his wife and eight children, William Webber traveled by way of the lakes to Milwaukee, Wis., and then by ox-teams to Rockton, Ill. He had considerable means, and bought 640 acres of land, paying cash for it. On this land he carried on farming upon an extensive scale, and so continued until his death. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Hake, and she died at the age of eighty-five years. Their children were as follows: Mrs. Margaret Wilcox; William, who lives in South Dakota; John, who lives in California; Catherine, who is the widow of John Griffith; Henry A.; Mrs. Mary Arnold; Herman J., who lives at Rockton; and Thomas, who is deceased. The family homestead was two miles south and a little east of Rockton, and there the father rounded out his useful life, being one of the most honored and prosperous of the pioneers.

Henry A. Webber was reared on the homestead, and attended the local schools. He learned the carpenter trade and went to Chicago, where in 1865 he helped to lay the first planks of the stock yards. Always of an ingenious turn of mind, he has invented a number of appliances upon which he has secured patents. With his brothers, William and John, he has placed valuable inventions on the market, among which may be mentioned: the Webber reaper and mower, automatic gate, a railroad snow plow, a railroad grader, and an angle sieve fanning mill, the latter being manufactured at Rockton, by parties who purchased the patent from Mr. Webber. He, with his brothers, manufactured the reaper and mower for fifteen years. He also built a number of steamboats that ran between here and Rockford. In all of his undertakings he has displayed commendable energy and persistent effort. During the Civil war he showed his loyalty to his adopted country by walking fifteen miles to enlist for service at Rockford, at the first call of President Lincoln for troops. Later on in civil life, he served as constable for ten years, and since 1910 he has been a justice of the peace. In politics he is a Republican.

In 1866 Mr. Webber was married to Sarah A. (Jewell) Kennedy, widow of Samuel Kennedy,

who was a veteran of the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Webber have three children: Mannie E., who is Mrs. William W. Alden of Seward, Ill., has three children, Harry, Ralph and Ruth; Frankie J.; and Gertrude, who is Mrs. Thomas R. Higgins, has two children, Dorothy and Wesley. The Congregational church holds Mr. and Mrs. Webber's membership, and he has been trustee of it for twenty years and treasurer for the same length of time. Fraternally he is a Chapter Mason and a charter member of Camp No. 77 of the Modern Woodmen of America.

WEBBER, Herman J., whose declining years are being spent in pleasant retirement at his comfortable residence at Rockton, was for many years one of the substantial farmers of this county. He was born in Somersetshire, England, November 13, 1842, a son of William and Mary (Hake) Webber, who came to Rockton Township, this county, in 1849 and bought 640 acres of land. Upon this they had two log and one frame house. The father improved this property and lived upon it until he retired, making Rockton his home the balance of his life, he and the mother both dying here. Their children were as follows: Margaret, who is deceased; William, who lives at Wessington Springs, S. Dak.; John, who is deceased; Catherine, who is the widow of John Griffith of Rockton; Henry A., who resides at Rockton; Mary J., who is deceased; Herman J.; and Thomas H., who is deceased.

Herman J. Webber was only seven years old when the family came to Winnebago County, so he was practically reared here and the greater part of his educational training was obtained in the schools of the neighborhood. After his marriage Mr. Webber took up his residence on a 160-acre farm in Rockton Township, and engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1891 when he retired, and selling his farm, bought a residence at Rockton. He served for twelve years as town marshal and eighteen years as constable and was very capable in both offices.

On November 17, 1869, Mr. Webber was married to Caroline Piper, born in England, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Piper, who came to Rockton in the spring of 1869, he being a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Webber have one daughter, Irma Blanche, who is now Mrs. William W. Black, of Rockton Township. They lost a son, Courtney, who died in infancy. Mr. Webber belongs to Rockton Lodge, No. 74, A. F. & A. M.; Royal Arch Chapter No. 190, R. A. M., and the Eastern Star. His long residence in the county has been a period of usefulness and he is one of the most desirable citizens in this part of the state.

WEBBER, William Rowland, although now living at Rockton in retirement from the activities of life, at one time was a very important factor in the agricultural life of Winnebago County, and still owns property in the township bearing the same name. He was born in Rockton Township, November 26, 1864, a son of William and

Mary E. (Smith) Webber, the former of whom was born in Somersetshire, England, September 20, 1834, and the latter was born August 13, 1842.

In October, 1849, William and Mary E. (Hake) Webber, the grandparents of William Rowland Webber, brought their eight children to Rockton Township, this county, to which, in 1838, had come Rowland C. and Margaret (Westlake) Smith, natives of New York State, and the maternal grandparents of William Rowland Webber. The parents of the latter gentleman met in Rockton Township and were here married August 13, 1860, settling on a farm given William Webber by his father, which was located in Rockton Township. This he conducted for many years, or until 1888, when he rented it and moved to Oregon, Ill. In 1891 he disposed of his property and moved to Jerauld County, S. Dak., and investing in land, lived upon it with his wife, but now lives in Wessington Springs, S. Dak. He and his brothers invented a reaper and binder that proved very practical, and other implements now on the market. His children were as follows: Jennie E., who was born August 12, 1861, is Mrs. K. P. Avery of Rockton; William Rowland; Harry Smith, who was born December 30, 1869, resides in Jerauld County, S. Dak.; George Herman, who was born April 20, 1872, lives at Drumheller, Alberta, Canada; and Bessie E., who was born September 20, 1876, is Mrs. E. W. Adams of Pine County, Minn.

When he was twenty years old William Rowland Webber went to live with an uncle, but a year later returned home and operated the farm for a year. Once more he joined his uncle, with whom he spent two years, and in 1888 went to Woonsocket, Sanborn County, S. Dak., where he was engaged in a butchering business, and when he returned to Rockton after a short stay, he continued in that line until 1889, when he went back to South Dakota, and resumed his butchering business there. In 1891 he began farming on the Charles Griffing farm in Rockton Township, and in 1894 moved on the farm owned by his aunt, which he afterwards bought. Eight years later he moved to the farm on which he had first begun his agricultural operations, buying it, and continuing to conduct it until 1912, when he retired. This is a farm of 654 acres in Rockton Township known as the old Talcott farm. Mr. Webber owns considerable property in Rockton village.

On October 4, 1888, Mr. Webber was married in Rockton Township, to Margaret S. Westlake, born at Chicago, Ill., March 31, 1870, a daughter of Henry and Anna E. (Coffee) Westlake, the former born in New York State. Mr. and Mrs. Webber became the parents of the following children: Dora E., who was born October 9, 1890, married November 15, 1911, Howard V. Gleasman; Ruth Mae, who was born April 12, 1893, married September 18, 1912, Frank A. Reed of Beloit, Wis. The Webbers are members of the Methodist Church, and Mrs. Webber belongs to the Ladies Aid Society of that church.

A Republican, Mr. Webber has been called upon to fill several offices and served as road commissioner and assessor of Rockton Township, holding both offices for two terms, and proving himself a worthy official and excellent manager.

WELCH, Patrick W., now deceased, for many years associated with the business interests of Rockford, was born at Rockford, January 17, 1856, a son of Michael and Bridget (Hanlan) Welch, natives of Ballina, County Mayo, Ireland. In 1851 they came to Montreal, Canada, and then to Brooklyn, N. Y. The father was employed at the latter place in mason work, and in 1855 came to Rockford where he continued to work as a mason until his death which occurred in about 1891. The mother died about 1905. Their children were as follows: Mary, who is deceased; James C., who lives at Rockford; John F., who is deceased; Michael, who is also deceased; and Patrick.

When he was only eleven years old, Patrick W. Welch began earning his own living by working in a tree nursery, and later for two years was employed by N. C. Thompson, manufacturer of reapers and binders. He then learned the blacksmithing trade, at which he worked for six years. Subsequently he was made assistant marshal of Rockford, and held that position for six years. Mr. Welch then went into business for himself and conducted his establishment for many years, leaving it to become a traveling man in 1912, so continuing until 1915, when he bought a barber shop and cigar store and a pool room which he operated until his death, March 16, 1916.

On October 27, 1881, Mr. Welch was married to Mary E. Pendergast, born at Rockford, a daughter of Lawrence and Bridget (Slattery) Pendergast, natives of County Tipperary, Ireland, and early settlers of Rockford, where the father was engaged in working for the railroad. Mr. and Mrs. Welch became the parents of the following children: Mary Ellen, John A., Frances, Lucile and Henry W., all of whom are at home. Mr. Welch was a member of the St. Mary's Catholic Church of Rockford. He belonged to the Royal Arcanum, the Catholic Order of Foresters, the Royal Order of Moose, the Knights of Columbus, the I. C. M. A., and in politics he was a Republican. For twenty-five years he served as drum major of the Rockford Military band, and joining the Rockford Rifles in 1878, was a valued member of that organization for many years.

WELDON, Lincoln S., whose activities along agricultural lines is not confined to Winnebago County, for he is a heavy landowner also in Wisconsin, is one of the substantial men of this section. He was born in Winnebago Township, on the eighty-acre farm he now owns, July 3, 1865, a son of Spencer S. and Agnes (Kelley) Weldon. Spencer S. Weldon was born at Keene, N. H., January 26, 1825, and was brought to Winnebago County, Ill., in 1836, by his parents. They came from Providence, R. I., when he was

nine years old, the family making a stay of two years at Ottawa, LaSalle County, then, in May, 1836, came to Winnebago County. His marriage took place April 26, 1854, to Agnes Kelley, born in Argyleshire, Scotland, June, 1825, and he and his wife became the parents of the following children: Mary L.; John E., of Florida; Samuel, of Oregon; Peter W., of Wisconsin; William G., of Rockford; Kate, who died in infancy; Lincoln S.; and Marguerita E., deceased. The mother of this family died in February, 1901, but the father survives and lives on section 23, Winnebago Township. He is a member of the Congregational Church, and his wife belonged to the same faith.

Lincoln S. Weldon attended school in district 100, which he is now serving as director, having been elected on the Republican ticket. Mr. Weldon belongs to the Grange, and is interested in its work. In addition to his eighty-acre farm in Winnebago Township, Mr. Weldon owns 300 acres of land in Columbia County, Wis. For some years he has carried on general farming and stockraising and is very successful in his line of work. Mr. Weldon is unmarried.

WELTY, Bert James. With the increasing demand for pure milk only, comes an impetus in the dairy business and the men of Winnebago County who understand how to secure the right kind of milk, are gaining reputation and material prosperity from this line of business. One of them is Bert James Welty of Rockford Township. He was born in Ogle County, Ill., January 13, 1875, a son of Calvin and Trocelia M. (Dawson) Welty, he born in Pennsylvania and she at Belvidere, Ill.

Until his marriage, Bert James Welty resided with his parents on their farm that lay on the edge of Rockford. Following that event he worked for his mother for a time and then bought a milk business that had been established in 1876 and since then he has been engaged in further extending it. Since the fall of 1914 he has been located on North Main street, having here a fine place of twenty acres, and owns his herd of fifty Durham and Jersey cows.

On November 17, 1898, Mr. Welty was married to Nettie May Osborn, born in Winnebago County, Ill., a daughter of Vinal D. and Ellen E. (Folsom) Osborn, natives of Winnebago County, Ill. The grandparents, Daniels and Mary E. (White) Osborn, were born in one of the New England states, and Silas and Anna (Warner) Folsom were also New Englanders. Vinal D. Osborn came to Rockford about 1835, locating on Rock River at a time when there were but two log cabins along the stream. He owned all the land on which the present village of Winnebago stands, and was its first depot agent, and at one time was one of the wealthiest men of the county. After their marriage Vinal D. and Ellen E. Osborn settled on a farm. He was agent for the Emerson binders in addition to working on his farm. He died in early life. Since his demise his widow has lived at Rock-

ford. She reared their three children: Frank E., who lives at Rockford; Daniel Howard, who lives at Beloit, Wis.; and Mrs. Welty. Mr. and Mrs. Welty became the parents of the following children: James Raymond, who was born November 7, 1900; Birdena, who was born October 2, 1903; Robert, who was born September 4, 1905, died March 1, 1912; Dorothy May, who was born August 15, 1910; William Henry, who was born May 14, 1912; and Calvin, who was born August 2, 1914. Mr. Welty has had a practical business training as he attended business college in addition to his courses in the grade and high schools, and his wife was a student also in the last two. They belong to the Court Street Methodist Church. In politics Mr. Welty is a Republican.

WELTY, Calvin, formerly one of the substantial men of Winnebago County, and a veteran of the Civil War, was born in the town of Liberty, Tioga County, N. Y., December 2, 1836, a son of John and Elizabeth (Linehart) Welty, natives of Frederick, Md., and Switzerland, respectively. The grandparents, Jacob and Barbara (Plantz) Welty, were natives of Maryland, while the maternal grandparents came to the United States in a sailing vessel, settling in Perry County, Pa., arriving there in 1817, when the mother of Calvin Welty was only seven years old, she having been born in 1810. Later the grandfather became a baker of Philadelphia. The parents of Calvin Welty in 1849, having decided upon a change, drove overland to Illinois from Pennsylvania where he had been engaged in saw-milling, and also as a driver of a stage both in New York and Pennsylvania. The paternal grandparents preceded them in 1845, locating in Du Page County, later going to Winnebago County and settling on the Kiskaukee River where Jacob Welty erected a mill and conducted it for many years.

In 1849 John Welty and his wife joined Jacob Welty and his wife at Naperville, Ill., and in 1850 they all moved to Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, where they bought land and farmed. In 1872 John Welty retired to Rockford selling the farm and lived there until his death in 1882, aged seventy-two years. The mother died in 1908, she being ninety-eight years old. Their children were as follows: Mary who was Mrs. William Reed, died at the age of twenty-nine years; Elizabeth who was Mrs. James Dawson, died at the age of seventy-seven years; Calvin; Timothy who died in Pennsylvania at the age of ten years; Jefferson who still lives at Rockford at the age of seventy-five years; Erastus who died at the age of twenty-four years; Sarah who was Mrs. William Brown, died at the age of twenty-nine years; Alcetta who was Mrs. Jacob Cline, died at the age of twenty-six years.

Calvin Welty early learned to make himself useful and when a mere child drove horses to the Harrisburg, Pa. market, riding the leader horse over the mountains. He remained with his parents until his enlistment on October 1,

1861, in Company L., Eighth Illinois Cavalry for service during the Civil War, at St. Charles, Ill. He was in the following battles: Fair Oaks, Turkey Creek, Malvern Hills, Poolsville, Barnstow, Cacoctin Pass, Middletown, South Mountain, Antietam, Martinsburg, under Capt. Dustin of Sycamore, Ill., and Gen. John Farnsworth. His horse was shot under him and he was taken prisoner at Martinsburg, but was at once paroled by Gen. Fitzhugh Lee and given a furlough of twenty days. He returned and was exchanged at Springfield, Ill., and was then in the following battles: Beverly Ford where 35,000 men were engaged on both sides, and he was made quartermaster-sergeant which rank he held until the close of the war; Kelly's Ford; Rapidan Station; second battle of Beverly Ford; Upperville; Fairfield; Gettysburg; Williamsport; Boonsboro; Funkstown; Falling Waters; Chester Gap; Culpepper; Madison Courthouse; Raccoon Ford; Stevensburg; Brandy Station; second battle of Bull Run; Bealton Station and Hazel River. He was honorably discharged in October, 1864, and re-enlisted in the same company and regiment and did garrison duty at Washington after which his regiment was sent after Mosby's men, a portion of whom were captured, and the balance driven out of Maryland. After the death of President Lincoln, he was one of the men sent in pursuit of Wilkes Booth, after whose capture, he was sent to St. Louis, Mo., where he was mustered out July 15, 1865, and from there went to Cincinnati, Ohio, by boat, and thence to Cairo, Ill., and up the Mississippi River on the steamer Olive. This boat struck a snag and sunk and four men were drowned and a number of horses were lost. Mr. Welty remained on the upper deck all night. He returned to his father's house, but soon thereafter bought eighty acres of land in Ogle County just over the county line and lived on it until 1876, when he sold and bought 110 acres just east of Rockford, which property now joins the city limits, and on it he carried on general farming and had a large dairy and conducted a milk route, being a useful member of society until his death April 3, 1912.

On October 17, 1867, Mr. Welty was married to Trocelia M. Dawson, born in Belvidere, Ill., a daughter of Robert and Cornelia (DeWitte) Dawson, natives of Toronto, Canada and Herkimer County, N. Y. The grandparents, Francis and Tomisina (Tait) Dawson, were natives of Yorkshire, England, and Willard and Elizabeth (Mosier) DeWitte were natives of New York state. None of these grandparents came to Illinois, they locating in Twinsburg, Ohio. The parents of Mrs. Welty were married May 2, 1843, and came to Belvidere, Ill., walking a part of the distance, and coming the remainder of the distance in emigrant wagons. Mr. Dawson entered 195 acres from the government, improved it and paid for it. He early served his community as a school director, and together with Chandler Dunwell advanced the money to the district to build the schoolhouse in district 119 Cherry Valley Township. There

was a time in the early days when Robert Dawson drove the Fountain reaper which was put to a test against the John P. Manny reaper, and Mr. Dawson won the race. Mr. Dawson's useful life was cut short by an accident which caused his death August 2, 1856. His widow died in 1902, aged eighty-two years. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Welty were as follows: Grace D. who is now Mrs. Clyde Sedgwick; Genevieve L.; John Robert who died October 11, 1911, aged thirty-nine years; James E. who resides at Rockford, married Nettie Osborn, and they have five children: J. Raymond, Birdena, Robert D. who died at the age of six years, Dorothy, William Henry and John Calvin.

James L. Dawson, brother of Mrs. Welty, died during the Civil War at Dufield Landing on the Mississippi River in Arkansas, September 14, 1864, being on the United States gunboat, Hastings. Jefferson Welty, brother of Calvin Welty, enlisted in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, January 1, 1864, and served with his regiment until the close of the Civil War, since which time he has made Rockford his place of residence, being engaged in looking after his realty holdings. Since 1912 he has lived with his brother's family.

In 1817 Mr. Welty's mother with her parents left their home in Switzerland in the month of June, and with a horse and wagon drove to Basel. There they spent the night and went across the mountains into France where they had to pay the exorbitant price of sixteen cents per pound for bread. They continued on their way 600 miles to Havre de Grace where they took passage on a sailing vessel bound for New York, being thirteen weeks on the ocean. They encountered some very severe storms including three whirlwinds which took every sail off the boat three times for three different days. Their supply of provisions was exhausted, and they were nearly starved. The boat drifted helplessly here and there to Theresa Island, where they secured bread, spending three days at that port. They finally landed at Philadelphia, Pa., on the first day of November. When seventeen years of age, Elizabeth Calvin Welty's mother learned dressmaking and tailoring, becoming an expert seamstress, for which labor she received seventy-five cents per week at a time when housemaids received but fifty cents per week. She became the wife of John Welty in Pennsylvania. They drove with a wagon to Illinois in 1849, being five weeks on the way. Mr. Welty purchased 197 acres of land for which he paid \$200. As his financial resources increased, John Welty kept on adding to his possessions until at one time he owned nearly 1,000 acres in Illinois, and 800 acres in Iowa. High German was Mrs. Welty's tongue, but she early mastered the English language, and spoke French fluently. At ninety-five years of age, still strong in intellect, she related in most interesting manner the incidents given in this sketch, concerning her childhood days in the old world and her early experiences in this country.

With the spirit of pioneers in his veins, Calvin

Welty carried on the various undertakings of his life. In politics he was strongly Republican, belonged to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. He served his community as a school director, but otherwise filled no public offices, being a man devoted to the interests of his home. He became a member of the Cherry Valley lodge of Masons before the Civil War. He and his family were members of the Baptist Church. In March, 1895 he received a serious fall from which he never entirely recovered. After the death of Calvin Welty April 3, 1912, his widow Mrs. Trocelia M. Welty continued her residence at the farm home. In November, 1913 Mrs. Welty caused twenty-one acres of the homestead adjoining the city limits to be platted as Welty's First Longview Addition. Mrs. Welty was among the early members of the Relief Corps. Before her marriage she taught six years in the schools of this county. Her worthy life was suddenly brought to a close in April, 1915. She was the victim of an accident caused by an automobile running into a carriage in which she was driving, and she died at Rockford Hospital April 19, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Welty's lives exemplify the term "dignity of labor," for along honorable lines and through indefatigable industry they won their prosperity, their labor being so directed as to gain the highest esteem of their fellowmen.

WEST, Lucius M., page 708.

WETTERGREN, Edward A., city clerk of the city of Rockford, is a man of wide experience and broad vision, whose place in the government of his municipality gives added strength to the potency of the administration, and enables him to demonstrate his ability as a man and worth as a citizen. He was born at Rockford, June 30, 1872, a son of John and Anna C. (Mellgren) Wettergren, natives of Skaraborg, Sweden. They came to the United States in 1869, and located at Rockford. The father had been reared on a farm, but after his arrival at Rockford, he began working in several of the implement factories of Rockford, and so continued until his retirement many years later. His death occurred May 12, 1903. The mother died July 13, 1904, and both are buried in the Scandinavian cemetery, Rockford. They were the parents of five children, as follows: Frank A., who died, leaving a widow and two children, Raymond and Irene, the latter being Mrs. Walter LaForge of Beloit, Wis.; Alma and Mary, who are unmarried; Edward A.; and Henry, who resides at Rockford. The parents belonged to the First Swedish Lutheran Church of Rockford.

Edward A. Wettergren was educated in the grammar and high schools of Rockford, and Brown's Business College, being graduated from the latter institution in March, 1888, having earned the money for this course by working as a delivery boy for a grocer. Following his completion of his commercial course, he engaged with the real estate firm of Johnson & Gorham,

with offices over the Third National Bank, but after a short experience as an office man, he left to go with the Register Gazette, and for fourteen years, from 1893 to 1907, he served this paper as bookkeeper and cashier. Mr. Wettergren then was with Charles E. Jackson as a realty salesman until 1911. In the meanwhile he had come before the public as the successful candidate of his party for supervisor in 1905, and served one term. In 1911 he was elected city clerk, and succeeded himself to that office in 1913, and was elected again in 1915, and is one of the most efficient men the office has ever had. Fraternally he belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 120, A. F. & A. M., the Elks and Knights of Pythias, and not only passed all the chairs in the local lodge but represented it in the grand lodge in 1906 at Chicago. He also belongs to the Tribe of Ben Hur and the Royal Arcanum. He was reared in the faith of the Lutheran Church.

On September 19, 1895, Mr. Wettergren was married to Amanda Kern, a daughter of John M. and Sophia (Nelson) Kern, and they have three children, namely: Edward Stanton, Wesley K. and Florence Marie, all of whom are attending the Rockford High school.

WHELAN, Mrs. Ellen (Knapp), one of the highly esteemed ladies of Owen Township, who belongs to one of the old established families of Winnebago County, has long been an honored resident of this section. She is a daughter of the late Rev. Jacob Knapp, whose services in the ministry of the Baptist Church will never be forgotten, and was reared and attended school at Rockford and later the old Cortland Academy, in Cortland, N. Y., for one year, and for three years was a student in Miss Anna P. Sill's Seminary, now Rockford College.

After growing up into useful womanhood, Miss Knapp was married to Matthew Whelan. He was born in Ireland, August 10, 1834, but was brought to the United States by his parents when ten years old. These parents located in New York state and there engaged in farming. There Matthew Whelan remained until he attained his majority, when he came to Rockford, and here he was married, as above stated, to Ellen Knapp. Her father gave her 220 acres of land in Owen Township, and on it they commenced their married life. They continued to reside on this property until two years prior to Mr. Whelan's death, when they retired to No. 1120 Ridge avenue, Rockford, and there Mr. Whelan died in 1910, and after his death Mrs. Whelan returned to her farm where she now resides. He was a Democrat in politics.

Mr. and Mrs. Whelan had the following children: Florence Scott, Phelina, Mary L., Nellie W., Matthew, George (2), Frederick Francis and Electa, surviving, and another son, George, who died in infancy. George is operating the farm for his widowed mother. Mrs. Whelan is still the owner of the Rockford residence which she rents to tenants. Although seventy-five years old, she is in possession of all her facul-

ties and remembers distinctly many interesting incidents of the early days at Rockford, and of her distinguished father's ministry.

WHEAT, Charles H. Winnebago County numbers among its most responsible and respected citizens the men who when their country needed assistance to preserve the integrity of the Union, did not fail to respond to the call in defense of the flag, and among the veterans of the Civil war now living within its confines is Charles H. Wheat, of Rockford. He was born at Owego, Tioga County, N. Y., September 2, 1840, a son of James and Ermina (Hall) Wheat, natives of New York state.

In 1855 Charles H. Wheat, who had been educated in the district schools of his native place, came to Rockford, Ill., and lived with his grandfather, Osee Hall, a farmer, for two years. His parents then came and located on a farm south of Rockford. In September, 1862, Charles H. Wheat enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and the regiment was sent to Louisville, Ky. Subsequently it was under General Sherman at the battle of Perryville and was in other engagements, including the campaign around Nashville. Here Mr. Wheat was taken ill and confined to the hospital for about five months, when he was moved to Gallatin, Tenn., and there discharged for disability, January 12, 1863. He then returned to Rockford and spent five years learning house painting, and decorating and paper hanging, after which he went to Nebraska where a brother had located, and spent two years in that state, which is the only time he has been away from Rockford since coming back from his military service. After returning from Nebraska, Mr. Wheat entered upon a general painting and decorating contracting business, and still carries it on with considerable profit.

On October 24, 1867, Mr. Wheat married Elsie Reynolds, born in Sullivan County, N. Y., a daughter of David and Irene (Smith) Reynolds, natives of New York state. Mr. and Mrs. Wheat became the parents of two children: George, who is a resident of Rockford; and Frances, who is Mrs. Albert Whale of Rockford. Mr. Wheat served as janitor of the Kent and Blake schools for ten years in addition to attending to other business affairs. In politics he is a Republican but does not seek public office. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. holds his membership and he enjoys meeting his old comrades in this organization.

WHEELER, Willard, page 658.

WHIPPLE, Henry Stacy. Among the men who have occupied positions connected with the civic welfare of Rockford, few are better known than Henry Stacy Whipple. In the capacity of manager of the Rockford Gas Light and Coke Company he has endeavored to give the people of this stirring and enterprising city a service commensurate with their demands and needs,

and that his aims have been realized is shown in the fact that, after a quarter of a century, he still remains as the directing head of this important city utility.

Mr. Whipple was born at Derby, Conn., December 8, 1855, and is a son of Henry and Roxana (Terry) Whipple, natives of Warehouse Point, Conn. He was granted excellent educational advantages, and was graduated from Yale University in 1875, being given the degree of Ph. B. after successfully passing the difficult examination in the Sheffield Scientific School. With this preparation, he entered the office of the Derby Gas Company, at his native place, remaining there until 1887, on March 1 of which year he came to Illinois and accepted the position of manager of the Elgin Gas Light and Coke Company. Three years later, to the day, he was called to Rockford to accept his present position, and here he has given the community a service that is beyond reproach.

At various times Mr. Whipple has been the incumbent of positions of public trust and responsibility. While at Derby he was appointed city engineer, later became registrar of voters there, and held both positions until coming to the Prairie state. At Rockford he has been president of the library board and of the University Club, and has been busily engaged in university extension and Chautauqua work. He is a past master of the Masonic lodge at Derby, Conn., and holds membership in the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Whipple was reared in the faith of the Episcopal Church. His first political affiliation was with the Democrats, and in 1884 he was of the party journalistically called "Mugwumps," while at present he is supporting the principles of the Republican organization.

On November 15, 1881, Mr. Whipple was united in marriage with Miss Mary Wheeler Hoadley, at Derby, Conn. She was born there June 8, 1859, a daughter of Joseph Merwin and Angelina (Southworth) Hoadley. One son, Robert Hoadley, was born to this union, December 18, 1883. The pleasant Whipple family home is located at No. 1514 National avenue, Rockford. Both in business and social circles Mr. Whipple is highly esteemed and has many friends, and as a citizen he is considered one of those who have notably helped to build the city and advance the interests of its people and its institutions.

WHITMORE, Charles W. Now a member of the retired colony of Rockford, Charles W. Whitmore was, for a number of years, one of the progressive and energetic men of its industrial forces. A carpenter by trade, he worked on many important buildings of the city. He was born at Avon, Livingston County, N. Y., August 20, 1842, and is a son of James and Margaret (Edwards) Whitmore.

The parents of Mr. Whitmore, natives of Springfield, Mass., were married in that locality and later moved to Cayuga County, N. Y., and then on to Livingston County, in the same state.

James Whitmore was a contractor on a large scale and was largely identified with the work of building the New York & Erie Railroad, particularly in the line of passenger houses, freight houses, cattle guards, ties, etc. A strong and vigorous man, he enjoyed a full and active life, and until his eighty-fifth year took care of his own contracts. He was ninety-six years of age when he went to make his home with a son, C. B. Whitmore, in Ontario, Canada, and there his death occurred one year later.

Charles W. Whitmore was given good advantages in his youth, attending the public schools of his native place and Genesee Seminary, New York, and in his youth learned the trade of carpenter. He was seventeen years of age when he came to the West, locating first in DeKalb County, at Sandwich, Ill., where he was engaged in following his trade until his enlistment for service in the Civil war. In August, 1862, he became a member of Company H, 105th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was sent first to Dixon and later to camp at Chicago, from whence it went to Louisville, where it was assigned to the Fortieth Brigade, under General Crittenden. The 105th took part in the engagement at Lookout Mountain, where it became a part of the Twentieth Corps, and as such participated in the battles of Buzzards' Roost, Resaca and Peach Tree Creek, then going with Sherman to Savannah, where the command remained two or three weeks. Later the regiment took part in the last battle of the war, at Bentonville, where Mr. Whitmore was wounded in the right leg, but neither this injury nor a rupture, previously received, could keep him from participation in the grand review, at Washington, D. C. Mr. Whitmore received his honorable discharge June 10, 1865, and came to Rockford to join a brother, whom he had not seen since he was a small boy until he met him as a comrade in the ranks of the Union army.

Mr. Whitmore then resumed his work as a carpenter, and continued to be engaged actively therein until his retirement, in 1902, since which time he has lived in comfortable retirement at his home, No. 404 Hill street. He is a Republican in politics, although not a politician, and is a popular comrade of Nevius Post, Grand Army of the Republic. He still takes pleasure in meeting his old army comrades and is a favorite with them, being remembered as a brave, faithful and cheerful soldier, and known as a man who has faithfully discharged his responsibilities in times of peace as he did during the war.

Mr. Whitmore was married December 26, 1866, to Miss Mary E. Worsley, who was born at Rockford, Ill., March 22, 1848, daughter of James and Mary (Blakesley) Worsley, the former a native of County Kent, England, and the latter of Bradford County, Pa. Mr. Worsley was for forty years an employe of Clark & Utter, at Rockford, and during all this time held a position on the same floor. Mrs. Whitmore died August 19, 1914. She was one of the best known ladies of the Women's Relief Corps, in

which she held every office in her post, of which she was twice president. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Whitmore: James, a resident of Rockford; Caroline, who resides with her father; George, now a resident of Chicago, who enlisted May 14, 1898, in Company H, Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and saw active service in Porto Rico, in the Spanish-American war; and Margaret and Earl F., who reside with their father.

WICKLUND, Arvid, who is remembered by the many who knew him at Rockford, as a man of broad charities, excellent business judgment and kindly sympathies, has passed away, but many of his good deeds are recalled when his name is mentioned. He was born in Sweden, April 10, 1870, a son of Erick and Anna Wicklund, who died in Sweden. In 1891 Mr. Wicklund came to the United States, and for a few months after his arrival stopped in Iowa, but later in the year located at Rockford where he was engaged in a retail business for some years, retiring in 1907. For two years he was out of business, and then in 1909 resumed his activities, being located on Fourteenth avenue until his death, May 10, 1912, during which time he built an elegant residence at No. 1219 Fourteenth avenue. He is buried in the Scandinavian cemetery.

On September 23, 1898, Mr. Wicklund was married to Maria Sjoden, born in Sweden, March 3, 1874, where her parents died. She came to Rockford in 1898. They made two trips back and on one stayed visiting for seven months. Mr. and Mrs. Wicklund became the parents of the following children: Edith, born August 12, 1899; Elizabeth, born July 31, 1902; and Lillian, born May 4, 1906. Mrs. Wicklund was educated in Sweden. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Wicklund attend the Free Church. In politics he was a Republican.

WIDELL, Swan O. The handling of realty at Rockford is one of the most profitable lines of business, but it calls for unusual ability and integrity. One of the men who has followed it for some time with advantage is Swan O. Widell. He was born in Smolan, Sweden, September 2, 1866, a son of Suan A. Skarp and Johanna Bedjaman (Dotter) Widell. The parents were both born in Sweden, and the father was a lieutenant in the Swedish army until his death in 1889, when aged forty-nine years. The mother, whose parents were farming people, died in 1913, aged eighty-two years.

Swan O. Widell was only seven years old when he was left homeless and was fourteen years old when he was apprenticed to the cabinetmaking trade and worked at it until twenty years old, securing what educational training he could, under adverse circumstances. He then came to the United States and to Rockford, arriving in this city July 11, 1887, with only fifteen cents in his pocket. He was fortunate in arousing the interest of Mr. Manning, the express agent, who assisted him in securing employment and took his trunk with-

out charge from the station to where he was going to reside. As he had been given a master cabinetmaker's certificate by his employer in Sweden, testifying that he was an expert in his trade, he was given work by Mr. Sanders as a carpenter, beginning with seventy-five cents per day, but was soon advanced and given work with David Carlson, contractor, who paid him \$1.50 per day. In 1888 he went with the Central Furniture Company as a cabinetmaker and remained with this concern until the Scandia Furniture Company was established, when he became one of its stockholders. He later engaged in the real estate business with J. E. Swanson, who afterward became secretary and treasurer of the Standard Furniture Company and later being on the city election board, and this association of Widell & Swanson, continued until 1893, when Mr. Widell bought out his partner, and has since continued alone, being now recognized as an expert on realty matters, and handling a large amount of business.

In 1890 Mr. Widell was married to Miss Albertine Lindstrom, a daughter of C. F. and Christene Lindstrom, and they became the parents of four children: Clarence, Bert, Edna and Marian, all of whom are at home.

In 1910 Mr. Widell took his family to Europe and they visited many places of note. He was alderman of the First Ward from 1909 to 1911, and for sixteen years has been a justice of the peace of the city of Rockford, being elected on the Republican ticket. A man of unusual ability he has advanced steadily and is one of the best representatives of sound, reliable business men Winnebago County now contains. Mr. Widell had always been a Republican until 1912, when he was a leader of the Progressive party in the city of Rockford, but later returned to the Republican party, having in view the welfare of the citizens of the United States.

WIGHT, James M., page 655.

WILD, Charles G., now deceased, for a number of years was one of the highly respected men of Rockford, who claimed Sweden as his birthplace, born October 8, 1844. He left Sweden and came to Rockford when twenty-seven years old. His brother Andrew came two years before, in 1871. After his arrival at Rockford, Charles G. Wild worked on a farm, but soon obtained employment in some of the Rockford factories, among them being the one conducted by N. C. Thompson. For fifteen years he was night watchman for some of the factories and his employers relied upon his faithfulness and conscientiousness. His death occurred October 27, 1913, in his residence on Sixth street which he had built. Here his widow now resides.

On April 10, 1874, Mr. Wild was married to Ida S. Kron, born in Sweden, a daughter of G. Peter and Martha H. Kron, who came to Rockford in 1870, the father being a laborer. He died soon after his arrival, but the mother survives and lives at Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Wild had one son, Gust E., who is a druggist on

Fourteenth avenue, Rockford. Mr. Wild belonged to the First Lutheran Church of Rockford. In politics he was a Republican.

WILDER, Nathaniel, page 648.

WILKINS, Sylvester B. Among the names that are connected with the industrial life of Rockford is that of Sylvester B. Wilkins, whose activities led him to branch out into wider fields. He was the founder of the Kenosha Hosiery Company, and his factory at Kenosha is one of the largest of its kind in the United States. He was born in Chenango County, N. Y., March 24, 1833, a son of Joshua L. and Mary (Stowell) Wilkins, also natives of Chenango County, where they died.

Sylvester B. Wilkins attended the schools in his district and went for a term to the academy at Binghampton, N. Y., being nineteen years old when he went to that place. His business career started with his manufacturing wagon spokes, and in 1851 he went to Milton, Pa., where he manufactured wheel stock for some years. Subsequently he became a builder of canal boats, and so continued until 1869, when he came to Rockford and established himself as a manufacturer of bolts. For a quarter of a century he was very profitably engaged in that line, when he sold and established what later developed into the Kenosha Hosiery Company. Owing to a lack of sufficient funds to properly enlarge his plant at Rockford, Mr. Wilkins went to Kenosha, Wis., where he interested some capitalists and the plant was moved to Kenosha. Mr. Wilkins served this company as vice president, and again as president, being in the latter office at the time of his retirement, in 1912. He has always maintained his residence at Rockford, and owns his beautiful house at No. 509 N. Church street.

In May, 1861, Mr. Wilkins was married to Jane Goodlander, born in 1838, at Milton, Pa., a daughter of Christopher Goodlander. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins have had the following children: George L., who is a resident of Rogers Park, Ill.; Mary, who is Mrs. George N. Holt of Chicago, Ill.; and Ruth, who is at home. The Court Street Methodist Church of Rockford, holds the membership of Mr. Wilkins. He served two terms as mayor of Rockford, being elected to that office on the Prohibition ticket. His daughter Mary, now Mrs. Holt, was one of the leading musicians of Rockford, and was organist of the First Congregational Church for many years, and Mr. Holt is a very capable and popular instructor in vocal music. Although his years of active public service are passed, Mr. Wilkins is still regarded as one of the leading men of Rockford.

WILLIAMS, Charles, page 707.

WILLIAMS, Charles B., painting contractor, and one of the most expert men in his line at Rockford, with residence at No. 1429 School street, is a man whose rise has been steady and well

deserved. He was born at Dodgeville, Wis., May 25, 1861, a son of William T. and Eliza (Grenfal) Williams. William T. Williams was born in England June 8, 1818, and the mother was also born in England. They came to the United States in 1851, locating at Dodgeville, Wis., where he bought land, and spent the remainder of his life, his last years being lived in retirement. He died at the age of eighty-one years, in 1899, and the mother is also deceased. After the formation of the Republican party, the father adopted its principles and continued to support it the remainder of his life. In religious matters he was a consistent member of the Primitive Church.

Charles B. Williams was reared and educated at Dodgeville, and until he was twenty-three years old he assisted his father in the farm work. He then rented land and farmed on his own account for a time, and then went to Chicago where he was employed by Armour & Company for a year. For another year he traveled for a school supply house, and in 1891 came to Rockford, where he engaged with the Rockford Cabinet Company, with which he remained for three and one-half years. For the next year he was with Weber & Briggs, and then in 1896 he embarked in a painting and decorating business, under the firm name of Morgan & Williams, and the firm is recognized as second to none in the quality of their work and the artistic value of their ideas. In 1905 Mr. Williams built his present home which is a very modern residence, artistic in design and finish. He also owns several lots in the west end of Rockford, 320 acres in North Dakota, of which he homesteaded 160 acres, and preempted the other 160 acres. His son Frood also homesteaded 160 acres in the same locality. On August 1, 1913, Mr. Williams arrived at Rockford, from his claim in North Dakota, having driven overland with teams.

In 1882 Mr. Williams married Sarah Paul, a daughter of Charles and Anna (Marr) Paul of Dodgeville, Wis., whose parents were natives of England, but came to the United States at an early day, and located at Dodgeville, where they remained until death, the father passing away in 1914, aged eighty-four years, and the mother in 1881, both having been consistent members of the Methodist Church. In politics the father was a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have three children, namely: Frood, Elinor and Aldo. Mr. Williams is a Mason in good standing. In politics he is a Republican. No man stands any higher in public esteem than he, and his success is well merited.

WILLIAMS, Charles L., page 708

WILLIAMS, Frank W., vice president and secretary of the Rockford Carbon Manufacturing Company, with residence at No. 1129 Blaisdell street, is one of the substantial citizens and live business men of Rockford. He was born at Chicago, Ill., November 14, 1875, a son of Theodore D. and Hattie D. (Reynolds) Wil-

liams, natives of eastern states. The father was a physician and a man of responsibility.

Frank W. Williams was educated at Chicago, and his business career had its inception when he began working as a salesman for a Chicago firm, but left it in 1910 to go with Fairbanks & Morse Company, of Chicago, as a commercial traveler, continuing with this concern until 1914. In 1915 Mr. Williams entered upon the discharge of his duties with the Rockford Carbon Manufacturing Company, and is one of the leading factors of this concern.

On September 6, 1904, Mr. Williams was married at Rockford to Maude E. Best. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have no children. He belongs to the I. C. M. A. The Christian Union Church holds his membership. In politics he is a Republican. A sound, reliable, experienced man, Mr. Williams is a valuable addition to any community, and stands very high with his associates.

WILLIAMS, Henry Wilson. The late Henry Wilson Williams was a man of many excellent traits of character and of sound business judgment and his career was marked by a success that does not come to everyone. He was born at Worcester, England, in February, 1835, a son of Joseph and Jane Williams, both of whom died in England. Mr. Williams was a well educated man, and his father possessed more than ordinary talent as a portrait and landscape painter, some of his work being still in the possession of Mrs. H. W. Williams.

In 1849 Henry W. Williams came to the United States, joining an uncle on his Michigan farm, where he lived a short time and then went to Detroit, Mich., and worked in a mercantile establishment for some years. He was then interested in a mining business on Lake Superior, operating in the copper fields for some time. In 1865 he came to Rockford and was employed by N. C. Thompson as bookkeeper for over twenty years. His health failing, Mr. Williams then took a trip to his native land, in 1887. His death occurred December 8, 1893. In addition to his beautiful residence at No. 313 S. Church street, in which Mrs. Williams continues to live, Mr. Williams owned other residence property at Rockford.

On June 5, 1870, Mr. Williams was married to Lydia Lane Wright, born at Emberton, Buckinghamshire, England, a daughter of Thomas and Ann (Lane) Wright, who died in England. Mrs. Williams arrived at Rockford July 4, 1866. Being a tailoress she entered the employ of George Atkinson, one of the old established tailors of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Williams became the parents of the following children: Henry W., William H. and Joseph T., all of whom live at Rockford; Andrew Price, who owns the Belmont Park Stock Farm of Alder, Mont.; Lavinia G., who is Mrs. John D. Tuke, of Walla Walla, Wash.; Lydia L. and Arthur George, who died in infancy; and Lydia Jane, who died at the age of six years. Mr. Williams belonged to the Episcopal Church. He was a

Republican and very much interested in the development of Rockford. Mrs. Williams belongs to the Eastern Star, her husband having been a Mason, and she also belongs to the Woman's Club, the Mendelssohn Club, the Woman's Relief Corps, the Rebekahs', and the Boys' Club, also the Rockford Art Guild, making the beautiful Buckinghamshire Pillow Lace, and takes a deep interest in all these organizations.

WILMARTH, Ralph A., a prosperous farmer and public-spirited man of Winnebago County, owns and operates an excellent farm in New Milford Township. He was born in Ogle County, Ill., September 16, 1870, a son of Alonzo B. Wilmarth, who was born in Rhode Island in 1838. He married Hannah A. Hagaman, who was born at Amsterdam, N. Y., in 1840. When he was eighteen years old, Alonzo B. Wilmarth came to Ogle County with his parents. Later he came to Winnebago County and bought 200 acres in New Milford Township, near Rockford. He and his wife had two children, namely: Ralph A. and Ned D. Alonzo B. Wilmarth continued to conduct his farm until his retirement, at which time he went to Rockford and is now living in that city.

Ralph A. Wilmarth was practically reared in New Milford Township and here educated. He owns 160 acres of valuable land and it is located on section 14. He was township supervisor and road commissioner, having been elected on the Republican ticket.

On June 26, 1898, Mr. Wilmarth was married to Emma B. Baxter, born June 26, 1876, and they have had the following children: Helen, born November 25, 1900; Lewis, October 4, 1902; and Ina, born December 3, 1909.

Frank A. Baxter, the father of Mrs. Wilmarth, was born in New Milford Township, in 1845, and after a life spent in farming, he is now living retired at Rockford. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Helen A. Conklin, was born at Rome, N. Y., in 1847, and died March 9, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Baxter had five children as follows: Bert, Myrtle, Emma, Effie, and Francis. Mr. Baxter belongs to the Methodist Church and his wife was also a member of that denomination. Both the Baxter and Wilmarth families are well known in Winnebago County, and their representatives stand high in public regard.

WILSON, B. A., secretary and treasurer of the Rockford Furniture Company, with residence at No. 1319 Revell avenue, is one of the alert, capable and progressive business men of Rockford who has risen to his present position through his own unaided efforts. He was born in Sweden, August 19, 1883, and there educated. After coming to Rockford when seventeen years old, he attended a commercial college of this city to gain a knowledge of business methods, and his first experience in the business world was with the Scandia Furniture Company as a cabinetmaker. He continued in the employ of this company for six years, and then went

with the Rockford Transfer Company as an office man, being with them for two years. He then, in 1912, was made secretary and treasurer of the Rockford Furniture Company, being at present a stockholder of the company.

On June 8, 1911, Mr. Wilson was married at Rockford to Selma Larson, born at Rockford. They have two children: June E. and Robert.

The sound principles which actuated Mr. Wilson at the beginning of his career, he still maintains, and recognizes that quality is worth more than quantity, and that honest policies and upright dealing are better than outward show and inward unsoundness. Under his able management the affairs in his charge are in prime condition and his company ranks among the foremost ones in its line in the city.

WILSON, Charles A., whose association with the Wilson Bottling Company at Nos. 510 to 514 Fifteenth avenue, assures its customers of fair treatment, and the public of a pure product, was born at Oland, Sweden, November 19, 1877, a son of John A. and Carolina (Mikaelson) Wilson. John A. Wilson was born in Oland, Sweden, where he was a merchant, and came to the United States in 1889, locating at Rockford, where he was employed in Chair Factory A, remaining in this position for five years. He then went with the Rockford Mantel Company, in which he was a stockholder, and later was with the Rockford Furniture Company, where he is still employed. He and the mother reside at their beautiful home, No. 2203 Parmelee street. Both are consistent members of the Lutheran Church.

Charles A. Wilson was eleven years old when the family came to the United States, and some of his boyhood was therefore spent at Rockford. Here he obtained employment with the Rockford Mantel Company, but in 1896 left this concern to engage with the Rockford Street Railway Company in their car service, and so continued until 1905, when he entered the H. E. Kling Bottling Works as a driver. In 1910 he bought Mr. Kling's bottling business and since that time has so increased the business that it now warrants two motor trucks and three horses to handle the delivery business, and at times Mr. Wilson utilizes his private automobile for business purposes. On July 6, 1914, the business was incorporated as a stock company, with a capital of \$25,000, and on July 27, 1914, bought the Kling property on Fifteenth avenue and went into the cider and vinegar business on a large scale. Mr. Wilson is secretary-treasurer and general manager. The stockholders are: Mrs. Charles A. Wilson, his wife, H. Soderquist, V. A. Bodorff, and H. Magrinson.

In 1891 Mr. Wilson married Miss Beda Kling, a daughter of Joel and Charlotte (Johnson) Kling, natives of Nerike, Sweden. In young manhood, Mr. Kling came to the United States, and locating at Pecatonica, was engaged in farming until 1887, when he moved to Rockford to take a position with the Co-operative Fur Company, later becoming one of its stockholders.

After four years with this concern, he purchased a valuable farm south of Rockford on the Kishwaukee road where he remained for a number of years. He then retired and moved into the city of Rockford, where he now resides, owning his beautiful home at No. 1026 Fourteenth avenue. The mother of Mrs. Wilson also survives. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have two children: Sylvia and Gladys. Mr. Wilson is a Mason, and belongs to the Lyran Society, the Independent Order of Svithiod, Mystic Workers, Woodmen of the World and the Vasa Order and the Moose Lodge. Starting out in life without means, Mr. Wilson has risen to his present position through his good judgment and business management, and is now justly numbered among the most representative of Rockford's successful men.

WINN, Charles S., M. D. The medical profession of Winnebago County has an able and distinguished representative at Rockford in the person of Charles S. Winn, M. D., who has practiced at this place since 1902. Here he has built up an excellent professional business, and has firmly established himself in the confidence of the people. Doctor Winn was born at Syracuse, N. Y., August 23, 1863, and is a son of Morris and Nancy (Simmons) Winn, natives, respectively, of Wales and Holland, who came to the United States during the early '30s and settled in New York, where they were married, in 1864 removing to Wisconsin. Morris Winn, who in his earlier years had been a boatman on the Erie Canal, subsequently turned his attention to farming, but in his declining years moved to Rockford, Ill., and retired, and both he and Mrs. Winn died in this city.

Charles S. Winn received his early education in the public schools of Clinton Junction, Wis., and after his graduation from the high school there began to prepare himself for examination at Northwestern University, Chicago. It had been his intention to pursue a college course, but the bank in which he had his money deposited failed about that time, and, being unwilling to give up his cherished professional career, he personally prepared himself for the required examination in the medical department of the university. In 1897 he took the examination before the State Board of Health and received his certificate in July, 1897, two years before the law was passed requiring examination. In June, 1898, he received his diploma. This certificate permitted him to practice medicine during his last year in the university. After completing his medical preparation, he at once entered practice at Chicago, where he continued for one year. Feeling that better opportunities were to be found by the young physician in the smaller communities, he moved to Byron, Ill., where he remained for about four years, and from there, in 1902, came to Rockford, where he has since been in the enjoyment of a constantly increasing practice. He has limited his work here to office practice and attention to clinical diagnosis, and is a member of the staff of Saint Anthony's Hospital. Doctor Winn is a

member of the Winnebago County Medical Society, of which he was secretary for three years, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and fraternally is connected with the Masouic order and is enthusiastic in its work. A staunch temperance man, he has been a worker and lecturer in the cause, and for some years was a member of the Ridpath Lecture Bureau, in connection with which his fine abilities as a speaker made him one of the most popular lecturers on the circuit. Doctor Winn has numerous other attainments, being a natural mechanic and an inventor of some note, with several successful articles manufactured and on the market. In his inventions and mechanical work he finds his needed mental recreation, while his physical needs are filled by long walks, the Doctor being an enthusiastic believer in this form of exercise. He is a member of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church. Doctor Winn's offices are located at No. 603, Trust Building, while his pleasant home is at No. 1112 North Church street.

On March 10, 1887, Doctor Winn was married to Miss Emma L. Taylor, who was born February 15, 1862, at Rockford, Ill., daughter of James Taylor, a pioneer of this locality who conducted the ferry across the river when there were no bridges here, and when his farm was the site of the city of Rockford from Peach street north. He was also one of the six men who founded the Third Street Church, now known as the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church.

WISE, Charles R., secretary, treasurer and manager of the Rockford Bolt Company, with residence at No. 522 N. Church street, has fairly won his present prosperity and his right to be numbered among the leading men of Rockford, for he has climbed through his own efforts and according to his own judgment has intelligently directed his undertakings. He was born at Williamsport, Pa., September 22, 1849. After attending the schools of his native place and a seminary, he became bookkeeper and shipping clerk in a planing mill at Williamsport, but left that city in 1870 for Rockford.

After his arrival in this city, Mr. Wise further fitted himself for business life by a commercial course, and then began working for John F. Landers, in his planing mill, taking the place of a bookkeeper who was sick. Within a month he was engaged by Guns and Company, as bookkeeper and shipping clerk. This firm conducted the Rockford Bolt works, and Mr. Wise has maintained his connection with this plant ever since, rising to an official position with the concern. His successive promotions have been the reward of his efforts, and the present prosperous condition is largely due to his foresight and excellent management.

Mr. Wise was married at Rockford in 1875, to Anna M. Glenny of Rockford, and they became the parents of two children: Rubetta E., and one who died in infancy. The daughter married Dyer Butnan, and they have four chil-

dren: Dyer C., Margaret, Elizabeth and Katherine. Mr. Wise belongs to the H. L. Martin Chapter of the Brotherhood of the Court Street Methodist Church. In politics he is a Republican. Alert, thoroughly conversant with every detail of his business, and progressive in his ideas, Mr. Wise is one of the public spirited business men of Rockford and one who stands deservedly high in his community.

WISHOP, Andrew. The agricultural labors of the late Andrew Wishop in Winnebago County covered a long period of years, during which he built up a substantial reputation as a farmer and business man, as well as an honorable citizen. He was born in the state of New Jersey, in 1852, and was a son of Andrew Wishop.

The father of Mr. Wishop was born at Paisley, Scotland, and was a youth when he accompanied his parents from Scotland, the family settling in New Jersey, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits. In 1856 he moved with his own family to Winnebago County, Illinois, settling in Harrison Township, where he bought a farm of 160 acres, a part of it being timber land. After improving this property he continued to be engaged in its cultivation until his death. His wife was born in New Jersey, was there reared and educated, and passed away in Illinois some ten years previous to her husband's death.

The boyhood of Andrew Wishop was passed on the farm of his father in Harrison Township, whence he had been brought as a child of four years. He received his education in the public schools and remained under the parental roof until his marriage to Miss Maggie Harper, at which time he began farming his father's farm. Subsequently he moved to near Clinton, Wis., where he was engaged in farming on his own account for three years, and then returned to Harrison Township and continued his agricultural pursuits. From that locality he removed to Owen Township and was engaged in the cultivation of a farm of 170 acres until 1889, in which year his wife died at the age of thirty-three years, the mother of three children: John C., Mamie, and Edna.

At that time Mr. Wishop sold his stock and equipment to his brother, John H., who rented the property, while Andrew made a trip to Wisconsin and remained a short time. Upon his return he settled down again to live in Owen Township with his brother, and four years later, March 15, 1893, was married to Miss Margaret Geddis, daughter of Alexander and Jane (Cormack) Geddis. Mr. and Mrs. Wishop at that time settled on the old home place, and there continued to reside until Mr. Wishop passed away, at the age of fifty-seven years, in 1910. Mr. Wishop was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics was a Republican. He was generally esteemed in his community for his admirable traits of character, and is still remembered as a good and public-spirited citizen.

Mr. and Mrs. Wishop were the parents of one child, Roy G., who resides with his mother at No.

1106 Grant avenue, Rockford, where they moved after Mr. Wishop's death. Her parents were born, reared, educated and married in Edinburgh, Scotland, and came to the United States in 1854, settling first in New York, where the father engaged in farming at Avon, near Rochester, and also carried on gardening. In 1879 he came to the West, locating in Owen Township, Winnebago County, Ill., and after renting land for two years purchased a farm of eighty acres. There he continued actively engaged in general farming until his retirement, when he moved to the home of his son-in-law, Mr. Wishop, with whom he died in 1905, the mother surviving him one year.

WISSEN, Gust T., foreman of the finishing department of the Rockford Furniture Company, with residence at No. 645 Chapin court, is one of the substantial and representative men of Rockford of Swedish birth, who have advanced from small beginnings to positions of trust and responsibility through natural ability and sheer merit. Mr. Wissen was born in Sweden, January 31, 1873, and there educated.

In 1886 Mr. Wissen left his native land for the United States, and locating in Winnebago County, employed himself with farming for three years. He then came to Rockford and was with the Forest City Company for a short time, leaving to go with the Skandia Furniture Company, and then for four years was with the Rockford Desk Company. In 1893 he entered the employ of the Royal Mantel Company, and for eight years was with the Co-operative Furniture Company. His next business connection was with the Union Shoe Company, and this he maintained for four years, when on April 20, 1907, he engaged with the Rockford Furniture Company, as foreman of its finishing department, which position he still holds, his long and varied experience making him one of its most valued men.

On July 25, 1900, Mr. Wissen was married to Hilma C. Swenson of Rockford, and their son, Vernet T., was born August 22, 1901. Mr. Wissen belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Pythias, the North American Union and the Northwestern Union. Emmanuel English Lutheran Church holds his membership. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Wissen is a thrifty man and not only owns stock in the Rockford Furniture Company, but also stock in the Swedish Building & Loan Association. A skilled workman and reliable citizen, Mr. Wissen stands high among his associates, and Rockford may well be proud of him.

WITHERELL, Henry A., was born at Attleboro, Mass., April 24, 1844, a son of Albert and Rosemma (Davis) Witherell. The father was born at Foxboro, Mass., in 1818, and the mother was born at New Portland, Somerset County, Me., in 1818. The grandparents were Benjamin and Ruth (Selee) Witherell, he born at Mansfield in 1790, and she at Easton, Mass., in 1795. The American founder of the Witherell family

was William, who came to the colonies in 1634. On the maternal side of the house the grandparents were James Davis, of Massachusetts, and Mary (Cleaves) Davis, of New York state. The parents of Henry A. Witherell spent their lives in Massachusetts, after their marriage becoming farming people in Franklin County, near Warwick, where they died. Their children were as follows: Henry A.; Helen, who is deceased; George E., who lives at Hartford, Conn.; Frank E., who lives at Warwick, Mass.; Ida C., who is the widow of Frank Atkinson, of West Swanzy, N. H., owns and lives on the old Josh Whitecomb farm; and Edward E., who lives at Bristol, R. I.

Henry A. Witherell attended the common schools in Massachusetts. In 1854 he accompanied his parents to Warwick, Mass. On November 1, 1861, he enlisted in the Prescott Guards, Company B, Thirty-second Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, for service during the Civil war, and was garrisoned at Ft. Warren, Boston Harbor, during the winter of 1861-1862, guarding Confederate prisoners. He was transferred in the following May to Washington, where the regiment joined General McClellan's army, and on July 3, 1862, they were under fire at Harrison's Landing. Mr. Witherell participated also in the second battle of Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, and was through the Wilderness campaign. He was discharged at Petersburg, Va., November 26, 1864, his period of service having expired.

Returning to Massachusetts, he remained there until 1866, when he went to New Haven, Conn., where he learned the burnisher's trade, and in September, 1873, became foreman for Crain, Breed & Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio. Six months later he went with the Aurora (Ill.) Silver Plate Silver Manufacturing Company as a burnisher, remaining with this concern until July, 1875. With the organization of the Silver Plate Company of Racine, Wis., he became foreman of the burnishing department and held that position until the plant was destroyed by fire in 1882. He then came to Rockford, Ill., to engage with the Rockford Silver Plate Company as foreman of the burnishers, remaining as such until March, 1890, when he became commercial salesman for silverware for different firms, so continuing until 1905. For some years he was engaged in a grocery business, in Rockford, Ill., but retired in 1914.

On January 1, 1870, Mr. Witherell was married to Emily M. L. Young, born in Wiltshire, England, a daughter of Philip and Mary Jane (Cook) Young, of England. Mr. and Mrs. Witherell have had two children: Winnifred Helen, who is Mrs. R. O. Trenholm of Rockford; and Benjamin Philip, who lives at No. 203 Oakwood avenue, Rockford. There are three grandchildren: Eleanor and Henry Alexander Trenholm, and Helen Witherell. Mrs. Witherell is a member of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Witherell is an independent Democrat. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., Rockford, Ill., the

oldest member by charter, on earth at this date, 1916.

WODE, Adam, secretary and manager of the P. Hohenadel, Jr., Packing Company, of No. 1215 Kilburn avenue, is one of the reliable, self-reliant business men of Rockford, and one who stands very well with his associates and men. He was born at Port Colborne, Ontario, Canada, March 29, 1864, a son of Adam and Mary (Gerber) Wode, natives of Germany and Canada, respectively. Early in life the father came from Germany to Canada, where he engaged in farming, and was married. When his son Adam was six months old, he came to the United States, and located near Buffalo, N. Y., where he bought land and operated it until his death, in 1901, at the age of eighty-four years. The mother died in 1907, aged seventy-nine years. In politics the father was a Democrat.

Adam Wode grew up at the home of his parents, and learned the canning business, following that line of endeavor at Buffalo until 1908. In that year he left for Rochelle, Ill., and worked for the P. Hohenadel, Jr., Canning Co. for a year, then he and Mr. Hohenadel and Mr. Stocking bought the canning factory here which at that time was known as the Rockford Packing Company. They changed its name to the P. Hohenadel, Jr., Packing Co. In two years Mr. Wode returned to Rochelle, and managed the two plants there. Once more he came to Rockford, and now is manager of the Rockford plant, the company being composed of the following parties: George E. Stocking, Mrs. Hohenadel, Marie B. Bungertner, and Mr. Wode. The company makes a specialty of canning peas and corn. It operates about 1,200 acres of land on which the peas and corn are raised. This plant was founded as the Rockford Packing Company, until bought by above parties.

In 1889 Mr. Wode was married to Miss Anna Lytle, of Ithaca, N. Y., and they have one child, Alice L., who married Emmet Murphy, of Janesville, Wis. In politics, Mr. Wode is a Republican. A skilled man in his line, Mr. Wode has given his best efforts to the promotion of the interests of his company, and in consequence its products have a recognized standing in the market, and meet with a ready sale.

In the spring of 1916, the above company made application to the Secretary of State to have the name of the company changed to Rockford Canning Co., but there will be no change in the business or officers.

WOLLSTADT, John P., proprietor of the Rockford Art Glass Works, corner of Seventh street and Railroad avenue, is one of the leading business men of the city and stands deservedly high in public esteem. He was born at Chicago, October 9, 1884, and was there educated. His first position was with Flaning & Biedenweg & Company, dealers in glass, and he later apprenticed himself to learn the art glass cutting trade with this firm, being with them five years in all. He then worked for various Chicago art glass

concerns until 1904, when on June 4 he came to Rockford and was with the Art Glass Works for a month. In that same year he founded his present concern on a small scale, gradually developing his plant, although at first he met with many difficulties, but he overcame them through excellent management and keen judgment. His business shows a healthy increase annually, and he controls a large trade. Mr. Wollstadt takes a great many contracts on the outside and over half of his business is from territory adjacent to Rockford but not in the city.

Some of the concerns of Rockford which have patronized him are: the Jewish, Westminster Presbyterian, Christian Science, Central Christian, and St. James churches. Outside of Rockford are: the Presbyterian Church of DeKalb, Ill., the Congregational Church of Rantoul, Ill., and the Methodist Church of Sioux City, Iowa. He has also furnished the glass for a great many store fronts at Rockford, including those for the Freburger Drug Company, Hanson & Bros., Elmer Johnson, Hassell, public library building, Carty & Dever, Jack Trager, Cutting's jewelry store, Colburg & Falkner, Williams Bros. and the adjoining store, and signs for William Roeburg's art store, the canopy for the East Side Inn, the Register Gazette, Gehaner, the furrier, the Schuman Piano Company, Elisha Thayer & Bro., the Ashton Dry Goods Company, the Ellis Camlin building, the Warren building, and many smaller concerns.

Mr. Wollstadt was married at Crown Point, Ind., April 23, 1906, to Hilda Schnell, and they have one son, John P. Mr. Wollstadt belongs to the Masons, Columbia Knights and the Germania Society, and is a member of the chamber of commerce. In politics he is a Republican and is committeeman from the First ward, and was candidate of his party for alderman in 1913. An alert, sensible business man and desirable citizen, Mr. Wollstadt deserves the success which has attended him, and is destined for further honors to judge the future by the past.

WOODRUFF, Gilbert, page 709.

WOODRUFF, S. M., whose plumbing establishment at No. 514 W. State street is one of the best on the West side, and whose reliability is generally recognized, stands very high in Rockford. He was born at Hornellsville, N. Y., December 25, 1880, a son of Charles P. and Laura C. (Batchelder) Woodruff. The father was born at Ellicottsville, N. Y., March 23, 1854. He went to Fond du Lac, Wis., and clerked in a dry goods store for ten years, and during that period he was married, at Guilford, Ill., at the home of John Mulford. Subsequently he returned to New York and clerked in a hardware store at Hornellsville until he established himself in a tinning and plumbing business and continued to conduct it until his death on March 4, 1884, when he was thirty years old. He was a member of the Temple of Honor and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

The mother of S. M. Woodruff later came to

Rockford, Ill., with her children, and she is now living, in the enjoyment of excellent health, at No. 725 Chestnut street. In 1888 she married (second) William A. Jackson. She was born at Sheboygan, Wis., June 26, 1856. Her father was a carriage trimmer and painter at Fond du Lac, Wis., until he went to Sheboygan Falls, where he worked in a flour mill for a few years. Subsequently he embarked in a carriage making business and continued in it until his death in 1871, when he was fifty-two years old.

S. M. Woodruff spent his boyhood at Rockford, being only three years old when brought to this city. He attended school in Pecatonica and Rockford. Later he began working for W. J. Bucklin in his machinery and windmill works, remaining with him for four years, then became manager of the pump windmill business of A. E. Cutler & Co., and held this position for five years, when he went with Jacob Royer and during the two and one-half years he remained with him learned the plumbing business. He then took a state examination and passed it very successfully. The next year he spent with Craddick & Johnson, and was three years with A. S. Gregory, and one year with Sword Bros. For two years he was with Maher & Smith, and also spent some time with E. Lesterbarger, whom, on March 9, 1913, Mr. Woodruff bought out, and since then has conducted the business alone. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum. In politics he is a Republican. The Baptist church holds his membership. A thoroughly trained man with a wide experience, Mr. Woodruff is fully qualified to handle his business and enjoys a profitable trade.

WOODRUFF, W. F., president of the Rockford National Bank, and one of the most astute and experienced financiers of Winnebago County, if not in this section of the state, was born at Dubuque, Iowa, March 21, 1858, a son of Gilbert and Nancy (Fay) Woodruff. When he was one year old his parents located at Rockford, Ill., and he has spent all of his life with the exception of that first year in this city. His educational training was received in the grammar and high schools of the city, and his interests are all centered here.

The business career of Mr. Woodruff commenced with his entrance into the Rockford National Bank. Although his father was then its president, the lad began at the bottom, and worked his way up until he now occupies the executive chair. Having given all of his mature years to financial matters, he is naturally specially fitted for his present responsible position and justifies the confidence placed in him. Through his efforts, the bank has grown very considerably, and is now the largest bank of deposits in the city, while its standing has been maintained without interruption.

On December 24, 1878, Mr. Woodruff was married at Rockford to Lizzie C. Cotton, a daughter of William B. and Elizabeth Cotton. She was adopted by her grandfather, Robert H. Cotton. Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff have no

children. They attend the Second Congregational Church of Rockford. Mr. Woodruff is a member of the Elks and Woodmen. A man of conservative ideas, he is not likely to advocate any policy that would in any way endanger the interests of his depositors, and yet he is so excellent a business man that he is able to give his stockholders an exceptionally fine return on their investment.

WORKS, Charles A., page 721.

WORMWOOD, Frank F., president of the Peoples Bank & Trust Company, and one of the sound, conservative financiers of Winnebago County. He was born at Rockford, January 24, 1862, a son of W. O. and Janette (Forbes) Wormwood, most excellent and substantial people.

The educational training of Frank F. Wormwood was secured in the grade and high schools of Rockford, and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. After completing his collegiate courses, he traveled throughout the West being identified with engineering parties, but in 1888 he entered upon his banking career, adopting this as his life work. Having practically devoted all of his mature years to finance, he is one of the best qualified men in the country to handle the affairs of others, and his policies as the executive head of the bank with which he is associated, are of a nature to command respect and inspire unlimited confidence.

Mr. Wormwood was married at Morgan Park, Ill., to Alice Ferguson, a daughter of William G. and Leah (Hill) Ferguson. Mr. and Mrs. Wormwood are the parents of two children, namely: Frank F. and Janet. Mr. Wormwood belongs to the order of Elks. He affiliates with the Episcopal Church. A man of unusual ability, he is recognized as an excellent type of the bankers of the country, and his influence on big business is a factor to be considered.

WORTHINGTON, William, page 660.

WRAY, C. L. Winnebago Township has some of the most prosperous farmers of the county, and one of them who deserves more than passing mention is C. L. Wray, residing on section 34. He was born on the farm where he now lives, in Winnebago Township, Winnebago County, Ill., and is a son of Samuel T. and Martha (Scott) Wray, the former of whom was born in Perry County, Pa., but came to Winnebago County, Ill., in 1855. In 1871 he married Martha Scott, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1852, and her father was an old settler of Winnebago County. S. T. Wray and wife have had nine children to reach maturity, and one who died in infancy. Those living are as follows: Clara, who is the wife of Lee Pollard, of Harland Township; D. C., who resides at Depew, Ill.; C. M., a physician, who lives at Iowa Falls, Iowa; C. L., who resides on the homestead in Winnebago Township; Martha, who also resides on the homestead; Harriet, who is a teacher in

the Bothwell High school, state of Washington; and Helen, Margaret and Charles, who are residing with their parents at Rockford, where the father is in an insurance business. S. T. Wray and wife belong to the Presbyterian Church as does their son, C. L.

C. L. Wray owns 100 acres of land in Winnebago County and on it he is engaged in breeding and raising Polled Durham cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs. In politics he is a Republican, but he has held no offices. Mr. Wray is unmarried, his sister Martha keeping house for him. A man of energy and foresight, he is rapidly forging ahead and well deserves his prosperity.

WRAY, S. T. The general public now fully recognizes the necessity for insurance, and the business of writing risks has increased very materially within the past few years so that it gives employment to the energies and abilities of some of the best men of the country. Rockford is the home of some of these representative business men and among them one who is making a success of his line is S. T. Wray. He was born in Perry County, Pa., July 23, 1848, a son of Thomas T. and Ann D. (Linn) Wray, natives of Danphin and Perry counties, Pa. The father was a farmer who died in 1849, following which the mother came to Rockford in 1855. Later she located on a farm in Ogle County near the Winnebago County line.

S. T. Wray attended the public schools of the several districts in which he lived and assisted his mother with her farm in Ogle County until 1869. In that year he took her with him to a farm at Westfield Corners, Winnebago Township, in this county, where he bought land, now owning 190 acres. This he operated until the fall of 1908 when he moved to Rockford and with David Hunter entered into an insurance business, he being secretary of the Rockford Farmers District Mutual Tornado Insurance Company, with assessable risks of \$15,000,000. They do a general insurance business, and are making a success of their work, this company being recognized as a sound, reliable institution.

On December 7, 1871, Mr. Wray was married to Martha Scott, born in Lycoming County, Pa., a daughter of Dr. Amos and Harriet (McCarty) Scott, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Wray became the parents of the following children: Clara B., who is Mrs. Lee Pollitt, of Burlington, Col.; David C., who resides at Depue, Ill., a civil engineer, married Bertha Loskill; Clarence M., who resides at Iowa Falls, Iowa, a physician and surgeon, married Nellie Burch, and they have one daughter, Miriam; Carlton L., who lives on his father's farm; Harriette, a teacher in the high school of Bothell, Washington; Martha E., who also lives on the father's farm; Helen R., who is a registered nurse; Margaret, who is in training in the Rockford Hospital; and Charles W., at the State University. Out of nine children there have been three who have gone through the State University, two sons and one daughter.

For eighteen years Mr. Wray served Winne-

bago Township as assessor. In politics he is a Republican. The Modern Woodmen of America, Elida Camp, holds his membership, while his religious home is in the Presbyterian Church.

WRIGHT, George A., a substantial retired farmer who is now living at Pecatonica, Ill., was at one time a leading agriculturist of Winnebago County. He was born near the county line, in Ogle County, Ill., February 8, 1855, a son of John and Matilda (Hutehens) Wright, natives of England, and farming people who came to Ogle County at an early day. Some years later they moved to Winnebago County.

Educated in the public schools of Illinois, George A. Wright became a farmer in young manhood, and lived on his property situated three and one-half miles south of Pecatonica until 1912, when he sold his eighty acres, and settled down in Pecatonica. In addition to his comfortable residence, Mr. Wright owns other property in the village. He is a man of retiring disposition, one who finds his happiness in his home circle. Liberal in his contributions to church work, he enjoys the respect of those who know him. The Republican party has his loyal support.

In 1853 Mr. Wright was married to Sophronia Hitchcock, born in New York. They became the parents of five children as follows: Mrs. Florence Stephens, who is living on a farm in Pecatonica Township; John G., who lives on the old state road in Seward Township; Mrs. Ray V. Sarver, who lives on a farm in Durand Township; Doris K., who lives at Hope, N. D.; and Mabel, who is a public school teacher at Pecatonica. Mr. and Mrs. Wright have seven grandchildren.

WYMAN, Ephraim, page 643.

YOUNG, Edward G., who owns and conducts one of the best plumbing establishments on the West Side, if not in the entire city of Rockford, is conveniently located at No. 711 W. State street. He was born at Elgin, Ill., April 16, 1890, a son of George and Mary (Foltz) Young. The parents were born in Germany, and the father left his native land in young manhood, and upon his arrival in the United States located at Elgin, Ill. Later he went to Bartlett, Ill., and engaged in farming on property which he bought, conducting the farm until 1907 when he sold and returned to Elgin, where he now resides, living retired at No. 40 Jefferson avenue. The mother is also living.

Edward G. Young was reared at Elgin where he was educated. When only fifteen years old he engaged with Zeigler Bros., plumbers, leaving in a year to go with Henry Platt with whom he remained for eighteen months. For the next two and one-half years he was with Emmett O'Connell. His next employer was Thomas Powers of Chicago with whom he remained a year, and then for five years he was with T. G. Erwing of Oak Park, Ill. On May 8, 1912, he came to Rockford and established his present

business at No. 711 W. State street where he carried on a large and profitable trade, being one of the best plumbers in the business. He is a member of the Moose and Yeomen lodges. In politics he is a Republican.

In March, 1910, Mr. Young was married to Miss Blanche Chellberg of South Oak Park, Ill., where her father was engaged in a stone business. Later Mr. Chellberg moved to Texas where he is engaged in farming. Mr. and Mrs. Young have one child, Viola.

YOUNG, Hiram W., now retired sheriff of Winnebago County and one of the most able and courageous men who ever occupied this responsible office in this county, has proven his worth and established himself high in the esteem of his fellow citizens whose property and lives he safeguarded. He was born in Hastings County, Ontario, Canada, January 6, 1845, a son of Ezekial and Maria (Bonisteel) Young.

H. W. Young was reared in his native county and brought up amid rural surroundings his parents being farming people. His schooling was obtained in the district schools, and he remained at home until he was twenty-three years old. At that time he went to Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and took a further course in its public schools. Following that he came to Rockton, and for a time worked on farms in the neighborhood, but in 1875 was engaged as a time-keeper on the railroad at Genoa and Elgin, Ill., later being employed in the Keeney Paper Mills at Rockton, where he remained for more than eighteen years.

When Willis E. Sawyer was elected sheriff of Winnebago County, he selected Mr. Young as his "first deputy" and the latter went to Rockford to assume his duties. So efficient did he prove himself that he was reappointed under Sheriff Alec Collier. In 1904 he was appointed poormaster, and served until 1910 when he was elected sheriff of the county, and his actions have justified his selection. He is the only one of his family to come to the county, coming here in 1868, but has himself proven so reliable and responsible a citizen that regret is felt that more of his name have not located here.

On March 13, 1876, Sheriff Young was married to Alta M. Comstock, who was born September 8, 1851, a daughter of Richard H. and Hannah (Horton) Comstock. Sheriff and Mrs. Young have one son, Fay H., born October 28, 1885, who served as "first deputy" under his father, and lived at home, now being in the laundry business in Rockford. The sheriff attends the Methodist Church. While residing at Rockton, he joined the Modern Woodmen of America, and has held many of the local offices in this order. He also was school director and on the village board and was clerk for many years. He has now returned to Rockton where he lives

retired in his old home. A man of unblemished character, his trenchant personality and forceful actions have placed him among the men who accomplish much. Unassuming, Sheriff Young takes but little credit for the excellent service he has rendered his county, but his record stands and his associates and those who come after him will judge him by it and render him the appreciation that is certainly his due.

YOUNG, Moritz C., a skilled pattern maker of Rockford and formerly an agriculturist of Winnebago County, is one of the esteemed veterans of the Civil war. He was born in Saxony, Germany, June 16, 1846, a son of Frederick and Bertha (Aschenbach) Young, the latter of whom died in Germany, and in 1857, the former with his four sons and one daughter, came to the United States, and located at Milwaukee, Wis., where he engaged in farming, although he was a baker in Germany.

Moritz C. Young attended school in Germany and at Almond, Wis. On February 13, 1864, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company G, that afterwards became Company B, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. The regiment was assigned to the Army of the Potomac, and Mr. Young saw service in the campaign of the Wilderness, and the engagements at Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Winchester, Smithfield, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, Petersburg, and Sailor's Creek, and was present at General Lee's surrender, and later participated in the grand review at Washington. He was slightly wounded in the right leg by a bullet at Winchester, and was stationed on guard duty for a time. On July 11, 1865, he received his honorable discharge at Jeffersonville, Ind., and returned to Portage County, Wis., where he lived for four years, being engaged in farming, and then went to Iowa, and from 1869 to 1871 was in the machine shops and lumber yards at Waverly, Iowa, but in the latter year moved to Racine, Wis., where he worked in a machine shop. In 1874 he moved to Milledgeville, Ill., and engaged in farming until 1880, at which time he came to Rockford and has been doing carpenter work and pattern making ever since.

On March 23, 1866, Mr. Young was married to Ann Mary Walter, born in Baden, Germany, a daughter of Andrew and Mary (Walter) Walter. Their children are as follows: Elizabeth, who is Mrs. William Weaver of Albany, Ore.; Emma, who is Mrs. Burt Ellis of Rockford, Ill.; Hattie, who is Mrs. James Williamson of Rockford; Alice, who is Mrs. George Horton of the Schumann Piano Company of Rockford; Edward, who lives at Chicago; Mattie, who is Mrs. G. W. Coleman; and Jessie, who is Mrs. Fred Schrom of Waynesboro, Pa. Mr. Young belongs to the Lutheran Church. In politics he is a Republican. Fraternally he belongs to Winnebago Lodge No. 31, I. O. O. F., and Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and is highly thought of in both organizations.

1053

